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JOSEPH ACERBI.

TRAVELS

THROUGH

SWEDEN, FINLAND, AND LAPLAND,

TO THE

NORTH CAPE,

IN

THE YEARS 1798 AND 1799.

BY JOSEPH ACERBI.

Sistimus hic tandem, nobis ubi defuit orbis.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

ILLUSTRATED WITH SEVENTEEN ELEGANT ENGRAVINGS.

VOL. I.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR JOSEPH MAWMAN, IN THE POULTRY,

SUCCESSOR TO MR. DILLY.

1802.

By T. Gillet, Salisbury Square.

DEDICATION.

TO JAMES ACERBI.

MY DEAR FATHER,

IN looking around me for a name truly great to prefix to my work, my country offered many, diſtinguiſhed for intelligence, for patriotiſm, and even for great achievements: but the feelings of a ſon prompted a different choice, and with emotions of gratitude and affection for the bleſſings of exiſtence, education, and example, to you I dedicate the firſt fruits of your bounties. The name of a hero or ſtateſman might flatter my vanity, but your's affords a more tender gratification. Your name has not been found in the annals of Europe—I congratulate you upon it. A great name is dangerous. Your private condition

condition preſents more genuine pleaſures; retired on your eſtate, you promote and cheriſh the happineſs of every heart around you; and while you are occupied in the advancement of agriculture, that nobleſt art, that trueſt ſource of national wealth and beſt contributor to human felicity, you enjoy the contentment of a peaceful and virtuous life.

During my long abſence, memory, faithful to her firſt impreſſions, has frequently recalled to me the pleaſing ſcenes of my youth; and often, amidſt the noiſe of ſplendid entertainments, and ſurrounded by a brilliant crowd, I have heaved a ſigh, and found myſelf a ſtranger and alone! Diſtance has ſharpened the recollection, and my anxious wiſhes have been involuntarily turned to your happy retreat.

It is a truth confirmed by every day's experience, in individuals as well as in ſocieties, that they diminiſh their happineſs in proportion to their departure from nature. My diſtant excurſions, my long journeys, only

ſerve

ſerve to ſtrengthen my deſire of repoſing under the ſhade of your trees, and in the boſom of domeſtic retirement.

Happy ſhall I be Sir, if in putting theſe volumes into your hands, I may in the ſmalleſt degree contribute to your amuſement. I ſeek no other ſucceſs, I aſk no other reward, but to convince you, that the time which I have ſpent in travelling has not been wholly loſt; and, that in changing climates and countries, I have never ſwerved from the dutiful reſpect and tenderneſs with which I am, and ſhall ever be,

Your very affectionate Son,

JOSEPH ACERBI.

London, Feb. 1, 1802.

PREFACE.

IT may poſſibly excite curioſity to know, why a native of Italy, a country abounding in all the beauties of nature, and the fineſt productions of art, ſhould voluntarily undergo the danger and fatigue of viſiting the regions of the Arctic Circle.

He promiſed to himſelf, and he was not diſappointed, much gratification from contraſting the wild grandeur and ſimplicity of the North, with the luxuriance, the ſmiling aſpect, and the refinements of his own country. He was willing to exchange, for a time, the beauties of both nature and art, for the novelty, the ſublimity, and the rude magnificence of the northern climates. Nor was it probable that ſuch a contraſted ſcene would prove barren of inſtruction, or be deſtitute of amuſement. There is no people ſo far advanced in civilization, or ſo highly cultivated, who may not be able to derive ſome advantage from being acquainted with the arts and ſciences of other nations, even of ſuch as are the moſt barbarous. The human underſtanding is benefited by communication,

communication, even with ignorance itſelf; juſt as commerce and wealth derive profit from an intercourſe with poverty. Every ſpecies of knowledge may be promoted by travelling into different countries: in all of them there will be found ample ſcope for obſervation and reflection, natural, moral, and political. It is only by a comprehenſive and unconfined ſurvey of nature, external and internal, by a growing accumulation of facts and concluſions, compared and combined with one another, that the empire of ſcience is to be extended: and the moſt ſtriking objects for ſuch a combination and compariſon, will probably be thoſe which preſent themſelves in a ſudden tranſition from one extreme to the other; ſuch as from the South to the North of Europe.

It was not without the utmoſt reluctance, that the Author yielded to the preſſing ſolicitations of his friends to print this work. It is the firſt that he has offered to the public, and he is ſenſible that it would be in vain to court for it the indulgence of his readers, if he ſhould fail of recommending himſelf by it to their eſteem.

The firſt part of theſe Travels, written for the gratification of a ſmall circle, who were curious to learn the preſent ſtate of arts,

ſciences, and manners in Sweden, contains an account of circumſtances too bold, perhaps, to meet the public eye. But to have re-compoſed and ſoftened it, by the ſuppreſſion of ſome particulars, however perſonally prudent for the Author, would have been to withhold from the reader a juſt and accurate idea of the ſtate of facts. It was incumbent upon him to ſacrifice all inferior conſiderations to a reſpect for the public and for truth.

With regard to that portion of the volumes which relates to Finland and Lapland, the Author was for ſome time reſtrained from producing it to the Public, by a motive of delicacy. Colonel Skiöldebrand, a Swediſh officer, the companion of his travels, had announced his deſign of publiſhing in Stockholm his drawings of pictureſque ſcenery in thoſe countries, accompanied with deſcriptions of the objects repreſented in his plates. The Author, therefore, ſuſpended his own publication from a fear of injuring the intereſts of his friend. But, on obſerving that the announced work made its appearance only in numbers, that it will not be completed for ſome years, and what is moſt material, that any degree of ſucceſs which might attend the preſent publication, muſt only ſerve to promote that of the other, all ſcruples of delicacy were removed.

Another motive for publiſhing this book was, a deſire of being uſeful to future travellers, whom ardent curioſity might impel to viſit the northern diſtricts. Thoſe parts of Europe, which are, I may ſay, almoſt abandoned by nature, are little known, and any information concerning them muſt of courſe be acceptable.

Faſhion, which extends its influence over every thing, appears, in our day, to favour travels and expeditions to the North: and the prevalence of this may, perhaps, have been increaſed by the political troubles in the South of Europe. However this may be, ſuch as travel to thoſe quarters are entitled to a degree of regard and eſteem which cannot juſtly be claimed by thoſe who viſit the South of Europe: for the hardy North does not by any means hold out the ſame luxuries, the ſame allurements of climate, and the ſame temptations to pleaſure that are preſented by a more genial and inviting ſoil. Journeys in the North will be undertaken by thoſe only who have a juſt and maſculine taſte for nature, under every aſpect, and are actuated by a deſire of enlarging their own information, and of inſtructing others.

With this view the Author, having reached the North Cape by a route before conſidered as impracticable in ſummer, has publiſhed

liſhed a delineation of that excurſion for the aſſiſtance of other travellers who may come after him. His accounts, whatever may be their defects, will be allowed to poſſeſs the merit of novelty. Even the faults with which they may poſſibly be charged, will not be without ſome advantage to others. His work, however imperfect, may ſerve to pave the way for one more complete and accurate. It is with travels, as with every other purſuit: men even of the moſt ordinary talents have often, by their humble efforts, given birth to exertions in others, which have been more happily directed, and more ſucceſsful.

DIRECTIONS TO THE BINDER

FOR PLACING THE PLATES.

VOL. I.

Portrait of the Author - - - to face the Title.
A winter ſcene in Stockholm - - to face page 42
Travelling on the ice over the gulf of Bothnia to Finland - 183
Extraordinary mode of ſinging by Finlanders - - - 226
A Finlander attacking a bear - - - - - - 288
Perilous paſſage on the ice - - - - - - - 235
Finlanders ſhooting ſquirrels - - - - - - 280
A Finlandiſh bath - - - - - - - - 297

VOL. II.

Map of the North of Sweden, Norway, Finland and Lapland, deſcribing the route of Mr. Acerbi's Travels to the North Cape - - - - - - - - to face the Title.
Two Lapland fiſhermen - - - - - - - 34
A Lapland family roaſting fiſh - - - - - - 43
A mountain Laplander's tent - - - - - - 107
Strix Lapponica - - - - - - - - 227
Corvus Lapponicus - - - - - - - - 228
Inſects, Sirex Nigricornis, &c. - - - - - - 253
Inſects, Papilio Emilia, &c. - - - - - - 253
Inſects, Papilio Sophia, &c. - - - - - - 254

Cancel leaf G g vol. 1. *is to be ſupplied from ſheet S vol.* 2.

CONTENTS.

VOL. I.

CHAPTER I.

Page

Partiality and Inaccuracy of Travellers conſidered—Mode of Travelling in Sweden delineated, and compared with that in other Countries—Journey from Helſingburg to Gothenburg—Warberg: Anecdotes of General Peckling—Gothenburg: a Deſcription of the Town, its Population and Commerce—The Inhabitants of Gothenburg, their Manners and Cuſtoms. — — 3

CHAPTER II.

Journey from Gothenburg to Stockholm—Trolhätta: the Cataracts, and the Canal, which is a moſt extraordinary Work—Some general Remarks occaſioned by this Canal—Book of Inſcriptions kept at Trolhätta—Face of the Country between Trolhätta and Stockholm—Agriculture in that Diſtrict, and its Produce—Mode of bedding the Horſes—Fithia, the laſt Stage before you come to Stockholm: Anecdote—Arrival at Stockholm: Want of Inns—Character of Mr. Malmgrein; his Attention to Strangers. — 18

CHAP-

CHAPTER III.

Page

Topographical Deſcription of Stockholm—Change produced in its Appearance by the Ice—Violence of the Cold that prevails in Winter—Some Objects mentioned which are peculiar to the Winter Seaſon: Water-Carts, Sledges, &c.—A Sugar-Houſe on Fire, and the curious Effects of the Froſt—The Seaſon of Summer: Country Life of the Nobility and Gentry—Their Diverſions and Amuſements—Paſſion of the Swedes for Cards and Gaming—Environs of Stockholm—Drottningholm: the Royal Palace—Annual Tournament at Drottningholm—The Royal Park at Stockholm—Royal Proceſſion and yearly Feſtival in the Park. — — 35

CHAPTER IV.

The Months of May and June, September and October, particularly diſagreeable, on Account of the Weather—Precautions againſt the Severities of Winter, Stoves, and Warm Clothing—Amuſements of the Capital in Winter—Plays, Operas, Concerts, Balls, and Aſſemblies—An Account of the Swediſh Ladies, their Beauty, Accompliſhments and Manners—Women of another Deſcription—Character of a Swediſh Petit Maître—Spirit of Society; Muſic; Dinner-parties—Formality and Reſtraint of Swediſh Manners—Etiquette of the Court—Coſtume of Dreſs—Private Suppers given by the King and Royal Family—Intercourſe between the Court and the People, and their mutual Relations of Condeſcenſion and Reſpect—Great Aſſemblies at the Exchange, which are honoured by the Preſence of the Royal Family—Places of publie Reſort, and their Expences—A Club called the Society. — 57

CHAP-

CHAPTER V.

Page

Character of Guſtavus III. King of Sweden—Reflections on true Glory, and the Virtues of a Patriot King—Arts and Sciences under Guſtavus—Character of the Duke of Sudermania, and his Conduct during the Regency—Animal Magnetiſm encouraged at Stockholm—Character of the preſent King of Sweden—State of Religion; the Liberty of the Preſs; and State of the Arts and Sciences in this Reign. — — — 82

CHAPTER VI.

Remarks on Academies or learned Societies—Thoſe eſtabliſhed by Lewis XIV. in France—Effect of Opinions and theoretical Principles upon the Fate of Nations—How far the public Opinion may be directed or influenced by learned Societies—More of the Characteriſtics of theſe Societies diſplayed—Academy of Belles-Lettres at Stockholm—Members of this Academy—The Swediſh *Academy, or* the Eighteen; *its Proceedings, Prizes, &c.—Members of the Swediſh Academy—Account of ſome Swediſh Poets, among whom is mentioned Mr. Torild, an Admirer and Imitator of Oſſian.* 97

CHAPTER VII.

The Academy of Sciences at Stockholm—The Claſſes into which it is divided—Some Remarks on the Diſtribution and Arrangement of the Sciences—Abuſe that prevails in admitting as Members of Literary Societies Perſons not properly qualified—A Liſt of the Members of the Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, with Obſervations

Page

on their Writings and literary Character—Academy of Sciences at Upſala; Royal Society of Sciences and Belles-Lettres at Gothenburgh; Society at Lund; and other Societies or Academies—Collection of Models and Machines at Stockholm—Diſpoſition of the Swedes for the Arts and Sciences—Their National Character. 111

CHAPTER VIII.

Inſtitutions for the Purpoſes of Education in Sweden: Pariſh Schools, Public Schools, Gymnaſia, and Univerſities—Account of the Univerſity of Lund—The Profeſſors and Students: the Method of teaching, and the Things that are taught—The Univerſity of Upſala—Some Intelligence of the individual Character of ſeveral Profeſſors—The Univerſity of Abo—General Remarks on the Swediſh Univerſities—Guſtavus III. enters the Prince Royal at the Univerſity of Upſala. — — — — 138

CHAPTER IX.

The annual Exhibition of Pictures at Stockholm—Academy of Painting and Sculpture—Account of ſome diſtinguiſhed Painters, and their Productions—Some Works of the Dilettanti. — 157

CHAPTER X.

Tribute of Praiſe to Mr. Coxe for his Account of Sweden, and for his Eagerneſs in collecting Information—A Hint given to Travellers—The general Impreſſion made on the Author's Mind of the State of Sweden in reſpect to Arts and Sciences; Commerce and Manufactures; and civil Freedom—The Uſe of Sledges in Winter,

Page

and the Advantages derived from it—The different Kinds of Sledges; and the Roads made through the Snow—Departure from Stockholm; and Journey to Griſlehamn—Paſſage by Haga and Ulrieſdal—Deſcription of the Gardens of Haga in Winter—Face of the Country between Ulrieſdal and Griſlehamn—Foxes met with on the Road—Want of Inns or Public Houſes—Proviſions of the Peaſants that attend Travellers—Character, Manners, and domeſtic Condition of the Peaſantry — — 169

CHAPTER XI.

Griſlehamn—The Paſſage acroſs the Gulf to Finland dangerous in Summer to navigate, and in Winter frozen over ſo as to bear Sledges—The Author's Journey acroſs the Ice—Difficulties attending it, and Adventures that happened—Seals or Sea-Calves living on and under the Ice—Manner of hunting them—The Iſles of Aland—Some of them mentioned by Name: the Fortreſs of Caſtleholmen—Anecdotes from a Converſation with a Peaſant — 182

CHAPTER XII.

An Account of the Iſles of Aland—Their Situation, Name, and Hiſtory—Pariſhes and civil Regulations—Soil and Produce—The Inhabitants: their Manners and Cuſtoms—Natural Hiſtory: Quadrupeds, Birds, amphibious Animals, Fiſhes, Inſects, Plants and Minerals — — — — 194

CHAPTER XIII.

Page

Arrival in Finland at the Town of Abo—Account of this City—The Library—The Univerſity—Admiral Heding—Farther Particulars of the Town of Abo; its Situation, Streets, Buildings—The Cathedral—The Building of the Academy—The Harbour—The Inhabitants of Abo: their Trade and Commerce—The Caſtle, called Abo-hus — — — — 205

CHAPTER XIV.

Departure from Abo—Difficulty of Travelling without a ſufficient Quantity of Snow—Tract of Country between Abo and Yervenkyle—Condition of the Peaſantry: their Mode of Life, Dreſs, and domeſtic Comforts—Meet with an old Minſtrel—Contrivance of putting a Sledge on Wheels—Deſcription of an Aurora Borealis—Reach Yervenkyle—Account of this Hamlet—Cataract near Yervenkyle: Appearance of it in Winter—Little Birds (Turdus Cinctus, Lin.) near the Cataracts in Winter—Dexterity of the Peaſants in Shooting—The Dwelling of a Peaſant deſcribed, and repreſented by a Drawing — — — 216

CHAPTER XV.

Departure from Yervenkyle—Progreſs through a large Foreſt—Danger to be apprehended from Wolves—Veſtiges of a Conflagration in the Wood—Frequency of theſe Conflagrations, and the Cauſes thereof—Devaſtation occaſioned among the Trees of the Foreſt by Storms—Road through the Foreſt; its Inconveniencies—

Page

Paſſage over the Ice; the Fears and Alarms with which it is attended—The generous Simplicity of ſome Peaſants who ſerved as Guides — — — — 227

CHAPTER XVI.

The Journey continued—Brightneſs and Tranſparency of the Ice, and the probable Reaſon of it—Stop at Sillanpe—Arrival at Waſa—Account of this Town: its Situation, Trade, and Inhabitants—The Tribunal for the Government of the North of Finland, at Waſa—The Preſident and Governor—Anecdotes of Linnæus 237

CHAPTER XVII.

Departure from Waſa—Inconveniencies of the Journey over the Ice—Arrival at Gamla Carleby—Account of this Town—Proceed on the Journey: new Difficulties ariſing from the Ice—Account of Braheſtad—Arrival at Uleaborg — — 246

CHAPTER XVIII.

Account of Uleaborg: Situation, Population, and Trade—Mineral Springs near Uleaborg—The Soil in the Neighbourhood of this Town, and its mineral Productions—The Climate and Seaſons—Vegetation and animal Creation — — 256

CHAPTER XIX.

Stay at Uleaborg protracted longer than was intended: Reaſons aſſigned for it—Intereſting Individuals mentioned—Curious Experiments with Animal Magnetiſm: Reflections on the extraordinary

Page

Phenomena produced by it—Advantages attending a Reſidence in ſmall Country Towns—Hoſpitality at Uleaborg—Spirit of Society at that place—Singular Mode of ſhewing Regard and Friendſhip for a Stranger — — — 267

CHAPTER XX.

Stay at Uleaborg continued—Cheapneſs of Living—Prejudices about ſome Articles of Eating—Bright Nights—Sport of Shooting—Chaſe of the Tetrao Urogallus—Muſical Party, and Concerts performed by the Author and ſome Fellow-travellers—Impreſſion made by the Power of Muſic upon the Senſibility of thoſe that heard it—Turn of the Finlanders for Muſic and Poetry—The Runa, an ancient Piece of Muſic in that Country—The Harpu, a muſical Inſtrument—State of Muſic in Finland — — 277

CHAPTER XXI.

Influence of the Northern Climate upon the Manners and Habits of the People—Hardſhips of Living in the North, when compared to the Southern Countries—Occupations of the Finlanders in Winter—Their Methods of catching Fiſh—The Chaſe of the Bear—Mode of ſhooting the Squirrel—Dangers that attend the Chaſe of the Seal—An Inſtance mentioned of two Finlanders that were caſt away upon the Ice while in this Purſuit — — 285

CHAPTER XXII.

Some of the Manners and Cuſtoms of the Inhabitants of Finland deſcribed—Their Modes of Courtſhip—Ceremonies attending Marriage

Page

riage—The uſe of Vapour-Baths among the People at large, and eſpecially among the Peaſantry—Some Particulars of this Manner of bathing—The extraordinary Tranſition from Heat to Cold which the Finlanders can endure — — — 293

CHAPTER XXIII.

The national Poetry of Finland—Runic Verſes—Turn of the Finlanders for Poetry—Manner in which they recite their Poetical Compoſitions—Specimens of Finniſh Poetry—A Funeral Elegy on the Death of a Brother—An odd Tale, called the Paldamo-Paſty—The Females particularly addicted to the Amuſement of Poetry—The Jauho Runot, or Mill Songs—A beautiful Ode, or Elegy, by a Country Girl, on the Abſence of her Lover—Lullaby of the Finniſh Nurſes—Songs intended for magical Purpoſes, and, among other Virtues, ſuppoſed alſo to poſſeſs that of healing Wounds, and curing Diſeaſes—This Superſtition prompts the Clergy to diſcourage the Runic Poetry in which it is clad—Probability ariſing from that Circumſtance, and others, of the Runic Poetry falling quite into Diſuſe — — — — 300

CHAPTER XXIV.

Departure from Uleaborg—Difficulty of travelling to the North Cape, through Lapland, in Summer—Plan adopted by the Author and his Friends—Preparations for the Journey: an Acceſſion of two Fellow-travellers—Affecting Farewell—Journey purſued—Deſcription of a Finlandiſh Dance—Some Specimens of Muſic—Amuſement at Hutta—Arrival at Kemi — — 324

CHAP-

CHAPTER XXV.

Page

The Minister of the Parish of Kemi—Environs of this Town—The River near Kemi: danger of navigating it—The Church, a magnificent Building—Striking Contrast it makes with the miserable Huts around it—Walk from Kemi to a short Distance to look at some Church Bells—Experiment tried by the Author of a Finlandish Vapour-Bath—Some Intelligence relative to Botany and Entomology—Departure from Kemi, and arrival at Tornea 333

CHAPTER XXVI.

Maupertuis's Description of Tornea—Account of this Town, by the Author—The Climate—View of the Sun at Midnight—Prospect from the Church of Lower Tornea—Harbour of Tornea—State of the Bothnian Gulf in this Vicinity—Trade of the Town—Some Travellers mentioned that have visited Tornea—Inscriptions preserved in the Church at Jukasjervi — — 342

CHAPTER XXVII.

Residence at Tornea—Some Individuals of this Place mentioned—A new Addition to the travelling Party: Enumeration of the scientific Persons that now composed it—Departure from Tornea—Some topographical Remarks on the Environs—Face of the Country between Tornea and Upper Tornea—Different Stages that are passed—Salmon Fishery—Particular Method of catching these Fish—An old Man serving for a Guide—A Bathing-place, after the Finlandish Fashion—Hand-mills for grinding Corn—A few Plants mentioned. — — — — 353

CHAP.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Page

State of the Road from Tornea to Upper Tornea—The People that inhabit this Tract of Country—Ofver Tornea, or Upper Tornea—The ſuperintendent Miniſter of that Pariſh—Hoſpitality of the Clergy, and their Attention to Travellers—Viſit to Mount Avaſaxa: the Account which Maupertuis has given of this Mountain, very accurate—Remains of Signals upon the Mountain—Inſects and Plants found on, or near Mount Avaſaxa. Flora Avaſaxenſis—Meat kept very long in the cold Seaſon—Departure from Upper Tornea: Loſs of one fellow Traveller who returned home. 362

CHAPTER XXIX.

The Travellers henceforth proceed by Water—Strong Currents of the Rivers, occaſioned by Cataracts—Paſs by a Salmon Fiſhery: manner of eating Salmon raw—Difficulty of navigating thoſe Rivers—Stages on this Journey—Paſs the Arctic Polar Circle, near the Cataracts of Kattila Koſki—A ſhort Paſſage by Land—Pello and Mount Kittis remarkable for Maupertuis's Aſtronomical Obſervations—Mr. Swamberg's Remarks on the Labours of Maupertuis; from which it appears, that his Obſervations are not to be depended on—Method of obtaining the Eggs of the Mergus Merganſor—From Kardis to Kengis—Arrival at Kengis, and Hoſpitality ſhewn by an Inſpector of the Mines—A Stone with very ancient Inſcriptions taken Notice of by Maupertuis—Plants and Inſects. 371

CHAP-

CHAPTER XXX.

Page

Stay at Kengis—Entertainment given by the Inſpector—The Bear-Dance, a very fatiguing ſort of Amuſement—Viſit from ſome young Women of the Neighbourhood; among them one, a Native of Kollare, of a ſurpriſing Degree of bodily Strength—Separation of the Travellers—The Author and another Gentleman alone proceed Northward—Geographical Notice on the River Tornea. — 391

TRAVELS

THROUGH

SWEDEN.

TRAVELS

THROUGH

SWEDEN.

CHAPTER I.

Partiality and Inaccuracy of Travellers conſidered—Mode of Travelling in Sweden delineated, and compared with that in other Countries—Journey from Helſingburg to Gothenburg—Warberg: Anecdotes of General Peckling—Gothenburg: a Deſcription of the Town, its Population and Commerce—The Inhabitants of Gothenburg, their Manners and Cuſtoms.

PARTIALITY and inaccuracy are common objections made to travellers, and often diminiſh, or even annihilate, that approbation which otherwiſe might be beſtowed upon their labours and exertions. The firſt of thoſe charges is of a moral nature, and relates to a failing of the heart; the ſecond aims at a fault, which either proceeds from indolence or ignorance. But theſe articles of accuſation, when exhibited, are not always founded upon truth: and, before a deciſive opinion can be given, the credit of the perſon who accuſes ſhould be carefully balanced againſt the

character of him that ſtands impeached. Thoſe who have travelled in the North, or deſcribed that part of Europe, have been peculiarly unfortunate in being expoſed to attacks of this kind, and having their candour and diligence called in queſtion. The accuſation has, in general, been brought by natives, who, though we may allow them to be well acquainted with their own country, cannot be ſuppoſed to ſurpaſs others in the virtue of impartiality. They are certainly as liable to be biaſſed in favour of what they call their own, as foreigners who come to viſit them may be on the oppoſite ſide. It is by no means eaſy to diveſt ourſelves of all prejudice and predilection for thoſe places where we were born, and where we ſpent the earlieſt and happieſt days of our exiſtence: and this natural partiality ſhould always be taken into the account, when the aſcertaining of truth is our object. We may grant that a man poſſeſſes a perfect knowledge of the local ſituation, the government, manners and other particulars of his country: but nevertheleſs he may be prejudiced; and while he labours under this diſadvantage, and is ſwayed by thoſe narrow ideas, which are the almoſt inevitable conſequence of a life entirely paſſed at home, he cannot claim unlimited confidence for his aſſertions. Thus, when a Swede ſmiles at Mr. Coxe's repreſenting Warmerland as a moſt delightful country, beautifully interſperſed and variegated with lakes, charming vales and well cultivated fields, we think him juſtified in differing from that gentleman's deſcription; and admit that, on the contrary, it is a dreary and unpleaſant tract, diverſified only by naked rocks and barren hills. But

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when he cenſures an Engliſh, French, or Italian traveller for affirming that there is no ſuch thing as convenient travelling in Sweden, and on the other hand maintains, that his country abounds in comforts; every one that has the leaſt knowledge of the ſubject, will immediately perceive the error and fallacy of ſuch a poſition.

When a native of the North repreſents that "you may travel as "ſpeedily in Ruſſia and Sweden, as in France or England; and "that on the whole you meet with as good accommodation at "the inns in theſe cold regions as in any part of Italy, ſo much "reſorted to by ſtrangers;" though I may entertain a great eſteem for that perſon in other reſpects, yet I begin to ſuſpect that he was never in any one of thoſe countries which he uſes for his compariſon. The only point on which Sweden will bear being mentioned with England, is the roads. But there are no public vehicles, ſuch as a ſtage-coach, mail, *diligence*, or other carriage, for the convenience of common travellers, who unite two principal objects in their journeys, viz. expedition and cheapneſs. There is no regular conveyance between the country and the capital; none, for example, between Gothenburg and Stockholm; Stockholm and Geſle; Geſle and Upſala, or the other principal towns of the provinces. The reaſon aſſigned by the Swedes, "that there is no "need of ſtage-waggons and the like, for the tranſportation of "merchandize, as the country is every where interſected by lakes "and navigable rivers," is not a ſufficient excuſe for the want of public carriages to accommodate paſſengers. In France and England

land ſtage-coaches are found in all directions, ſo that you may with eaſe travel to whatever quarter your inclination or buſineſs calls you. Even where there are navigable rivers and canals, theſe carriages abound at every hour of night and day. As to the compariſon which the advocate of the North draws between the inns of Sweden and thoſe of Italy, I ſhall not diſcuſs its truth or falſehood, as I might be ſuſpected of partiality for the latter, which is my native country. I ſhall only obſerve, that between Helſinburg and Stockholm, a diſtance of near four hundred miles,* nothing that can be conſidered as an inn is to be met with: whereas there is no part of Italy where, in the ſame ſpace, you would not come to fifty towns, in neatneſs and elegance, and every comfort of life, equal if not ſuperior even to the capital of Sweden; that in Italy, the South perhaps excepted, it is impoſſible to travel twenty miles without meeting with an inn, whilſt there is not ſo much as one to be found in Stockholm itſelf; that a ſmall village in Italy is better provided with all the neceſſaries and conveniencies of life, than the moſt eminent provincial towns of Sweden: in ſhort, I ſhall anſwer the Swediſh author to whom I allude in his own words: "If any one wiſh to travel through "Sweden with tolerable eaſe, he will do well to provide himſelf "with a carriage, as well as with bread and wine, and other provi-"ſions," which precautions are certainly quite unneceſſary in Italy.†

* Italian or Engliſh, which are nearly the ſame.

† The ſame Swediſh writer ſays, "that if Don Quixote miſtook all the inns "he met with for caſtles, in Sweden he would have miſtaken all the houſes for "inns." There is not any country however with which I am acquainted, where the houſes have leſs the appearance of inns than in Sweden.

Further, a country in which you are obliged to lay aſide your own carriage, and to ſubſtitute one which is ſmaller and leſs convenient, cannot be ſaid to be well adapted to the purpoſe of travelling: yet this is the caſe in Sweden, where you muſt be prepared to encounter this and many other diſagreeable circumſtances.

The horſes are ſmall and weak, and their deficiency in ſize and ſtrength is to be made up by increaſe of number. This multiplication is attended with a world of trouble. It is not in an inſtant that ſo many horſes can be put to the carriage; the chance is increaſed that ſomething or other will be wanting, ſomething wrong or out of order in the harneſs; there is alſo more difficulty in bringing the horſes to draw and keep pace with each other. All theſe impediments taken together, occaſion a conſiderable loſs of time. You are ſtopped at every turn, and the expedition of travelling in Sweden, compared with that of France and England, is found to be a mere fable. Among the ſeven or eight horſes that you are obliged to uſe, you have always to apprehend that ſome one may turn out reſtive; and the bad example of one will ſpoil all the reſt. I travelled from Helſingburg to Stockholm, by the way of Gothenburg, together with one of my countrymen in a *viennaiſe*; but inſtead of three horſes, as in Germany, we were forced to increaſe our number, till it amounted to ſeven. The horſes were put to the carriage four a-breaſt in the firſt line, and three in the ſecond. They were ſo little, lean, and feeble, that it ſeemed as if our vehicle were drawn

drawn by ſo many ſheep. The more we increaſed their number, the ſlower was our progreſs on the journey. It was the month of September, and the roads, which were always either up-hill or down hill, began to be injured by the rains. In going down hill, we were afraid of cauſing death and deſtruction among our poor feeble animals, which were impelled, without power of reſiſtance, by the weight of the carriage, and neither able to ſtop nor to retard its motion: and when we went up hill, we often were at a ſtand when it would have been moſt deſirable to go forward. The horſes, as I have ſaid, did not draw together. We were attended by five or ſix peaſants, who had each of them a horſe in our caravan; and deeming it good policy to whip up their neighbour's horſes while they ſpared their own, they fell often a quarrelling, and ſometimes dealt about blows among themſelves as well as among each other's horſes. Such a Babyloniſh confuſion is not, I believe, to be met with in any other part of the world. This at leaſt I know, that I never encountered any thing ſo embarraſſing in any other country. One may travel very comfortably in Sweden, they tell you, with the aid of a man who knows how to manage and drive the horſes; but where is there a perſon in the world capable of conducting theſe animals? They underſtand only the Swediſh ſounds; and the dialect in which they are addreſſed by the peaſants, is ſo original, and conſiſts in ſo extraordinary a motion or vibration of the lips,*

* Tpſchrúú. It is exactly by the ſame ſound that the country people in Scotland addreſs their horſes when they want them to ſtop.

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that it is impoſſible any foreign charioteer ſhould be able to acquire it in a ſhorter ſpace of time than ſeveral weeks, or perhaps months. The ſame ſound that is uſed in Italy to quicken the horſes' pace, is employed in Sweden for the purpoſe of making them halt: and it often happened that, when we were aſcending ſome ſteep hill, we uttered that or a ſimilar ſound, to encourage the horſes; when, to our great diſappointment, they ſtopped ſhort inſtantaneouſly. We then had to blame ourſelves for forgetting the idiom of the Swediſh language, and patiently to endure the conſequence of our miſtake; while the peaſants ſeemed aſtoniſhed at our raſhneſs or folly in checking the exertion of the horſes on the ſide of a ſteep mountain, where the weight of the carriage might force the animals backwards, and involve us in great danger. At the ſame time, when we reflected on the unfortunate power of habit and its effects, in the preſent inſtance, we could not help laughing even in the midſt of peril.

Another ſubject of commendation among the panegyriſts of Swediſh travelling, but equally unfounded with that of their praiſes of expedition, is cheapneſs. If they were to calculate the expence of a courier, whom you muſt ſend before you on the road to beſpeak horſes, if they would conſider the greater number of horſes to be employed on a journey in Sweden than in one in Germany, moreover the hire of a driver from Copenhagen, and the expences of his return home, beſides the compenſation to be made to the peaſants for waiting with their horſes for the arrival of their employer; were they to take all theſe things into the

account, they would find that travelling in Sweden with one's own equipage, not to mention the circumſtance of its extreme inconvenience, is, on the whole, more expenſive than in any other country of Europe, except perhaps in England. The countries in which I have found it eaſieſt to travel, that is, where convenience is moſt happily united with cheapneſs, are Auſtria and Bohemia, particularly the latter. I am not conſcious of any tendency to either ill-humour or prejudice: I only declare matters of fact that have come under my own obſervation, and under that of many other travellers. If ſome have travelled in Sweden with greater advantages than myſelf, I can only ſay that they have been more fortunate: but I muſt ſtill maintain, that thoſe impediments which I have deſcribed, are extremely diſagreeable, and not to be met with in any other part of Europe.

Another comfort for travellers, much boaſted of by the natives, and repreſented as peculiar only to their country, is, that at every poſt houſe a regiſter is put into your hands, under the denomination of a day-book, in which travellers ſet down their names, their ſtate or condition of life, whence they came, and whither they are going; and if they have been ſatisfied or otherwiſe with the poſtilion, or rather the peaſant. But it is, in my opinion, rather to be conſidered as an inconvenience: for it is, in fact, a mere formality, that occaſions a waſte of time without remedying any one of the evils that may be recorded and complained of. When a traveller ſets out on a journey through Sweden, under the erroneous notion of its being a wild and barbarous country,

country, buried under everlaſting ſnow and ice, without inns, poſt-horſes, or roads, he may be ſurprized to meet with many public regulations and eſtabliſhments which he did not expect; but when, on the other hand, he ſuffers himſelf to be impoſed on by the groundleſs ſuppoſition of finding in that country ſuch accommodations as in France or England, he will be miſerably diſappointed. It would not be very wide of the mark to ſay, that the truth lies, as uſual, between the two extremes, but inclining rather to the ſide which is unfavourable.

In order to make the journey from Helſingburg to Stockholm more intereſting, you ſhould take the route of Gothenburg and Trolhätta. Before you come to Gothenburg, you paſs through Warberg, a ſmall village with a fortreſs, ſituated on the edge of the ſea. Here the Swediſh government confined the famous General Peckling, ſuſpected of being an accomplice in the murder of Guſtavus III. This man was of the party in oppoſition to the king in 1756, being at that time in the pay of Ruſſia. In 1762, when he had become a penſioner of France, he was on the ſide of the court. In 1772, when having the rank of colonel in the army, he betrayed an intention to excite his regiment to mutiny; but he was arreſted at Enköping, conducted to Stockholm,* and after the death of Guſtavus, ſhut up in the

* According to the author of the Life of Catharine II. and the Travels of *Two Frenchmen*, he was taken to Gripſholm, and confined in the caſtle, which ſerved formerly as a priſon for Eric XIV. This however is a miſtake. The caſtle of Gripſholm is at preſent utterly uninhabitable, having neither roof nor caſements.

fortreſs of Warberg. During his confinement at this place, as he had not been convicted of any crime, though ſuſpected, he was in the full enjoyment of all his wealth and income: and, whether from malignity, rage, or madneſs, he one day formed a reſolution to execute a ſtratagem for raiſing a famine in the little town of Warberg. He gave orders early in the morning for buying up all the proviſions in the market-place, and bringing them forthwith to him. It was a matter of ſatisfaction and pleaſure to him, to think that all the inhabitants of the town would be pinched with hunger, while he himſelf poſſeſſed the utmoſt abundance; and that in this manner, the beſiegers being reduced to famine by the beſieged, the uſual operations of warfare would be completely reverſed. This act of extravagance was not more afflicting to the citizens of Warberg, than it was acceptable to the officers and ſoldiers of the garriſon, and the priſoners confined beſides himſelf in the caſtle. This anecdote, which is in perfect conformity with the character of Peckling, who united with excellent talents a conſiderable ſhare of excentricity, though told by every body at Warberg, I have not ſeen in any public prints, or books of travels. General Peckling had a great reputation for eloquence and political acquirements, and above all, for an intimate acquaintance with the laws of his country. By means of his legal knowledge, he always eſcaped with ſafety from the various law-ſuits in which he was involved. He was wont to amuſe himſelf with teazing and making game of his judges, who were often confounded by his ſubtleties and legal ſophiſtry.

ſophiſtry. The court-martial by which he was tried in 1772, after a confinement of more than four months at Stockholm, was held under the direction of General Horn, who had been created a Count after the revolution in 1772, more from his zeal, it is ſaid, than on account of any real ſervice. This nobleman, being a near relation to Baron Peckling, ſeemed to fear nothing ſo much as to be thought partial to his kinſman. As the charge laid againſt him was no leſs than rebellion and high treaſon, it was very difficult to find a lawyer who would undertake his defence; till, at laſt, a young man, of the name of Blix, generouſly offered his ſervices. The court-martial being at a loſs how, on any plauſible grounds, to find the General guilty, but yet not daring to acquit him before they knew the intentions of the King, who was then at Elköſund, at the distance of near fifty miles from the capital, they adjourned till they ſhould receive farther inſtruction. But as it was contrary to the privileges of the Swediſh nobility, that any of their members ſhould be kept in priſon without being fully convicted of a crime, the General's counſel aſked the Court if they had any other rules for their proceedings than the laws of their country? They anſwered they had none. Yet Baron Peckling was not ſet at liberty, but in conſequence of a petition to the King. So ſudden and deplorable was the effect produced by the revolution on the high-ſpirited nobility of Sweden.

Gothenburg is the ſecond city of the kingdom. Its environs are almoſt every where naked, barren, and dreary. They preſent

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an uniform ſcene of ſmall eminences of black rock, where nature cannot by any power of art be forced to produce vegetation. The harbour exhibits a ſimilar confuſion of rocks not more pleaſing to the eye, and ſome little craggy iſles of a rugged and forbidding aſpect. As to the interior of the town, it reſembles in ſome reſpects the towns of Holland, having canals, with rows of trees along their margins, regularly cut or clipped in the Dutch faſhion. The inhabitants of this place are in a ſtate of conſtant emulation with thoſe of the capital, in commerce as well as in their mode of life, their faſhions, and every ſpecies of luxury. I have been aſſured by ſeveral perſons that one may live more agreeably at Gothenburg than at Stockholm. To a ſtranger who delights in ſociety, it certainly affords opportunities of following his inclination without formality or reſtraint. The ladies of Gothenburg are celebrated for their amiable diſpoſitions, their beauty, their ſociability, and their accompliſhments. They employ much of their time in the cultivation of languages and the arts, particularly that of muſic. They poſſeſs in a very high degree all the qualifications that form an amiable, accompliſhed, and intereſting woman. The population of this town is about fifteen thouſand. The ſuburbs are ſituated on riſing ground, and are occupied principally by ſeafaring people belonging to merchantmen, the Eaſt India Company, and ſeveral ſhips of war ſtationed in the harbour. There is an hoſpital at Gothenburg, founded by an individual, Mr. Sahlgren, the annual revenue of which amounts to fifteen hundred rix dollars. It contains thirty beds, of which

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two are appropriated for the delivery of pregnant women: but when occaſion requires, a greater number is allotted for this benevolent purpoſe, ſometimes as many as ſeven. Any woman, whoever ſhe may be, when her time approaches, on ringing a bell at any hour during day or night, is inſtantly admitted *gratis*, and without being aſked any queſtions. They alſo receive foundling children, and at times maintain no leſs than forty or fifty of them. The commerce of Gothenburg is very conſiderable, and comprehends perhaps more than the ſeventh part of the exports, and about a fourth of the imports of the whole kingdom. The Eaſt India Company, in which the city of Antwerp and the town of Oſtend have a large ſhare, ſends from one to two or three ſhips annually to China. Though their charter empowers them to trade with India, it is but rarely, and to no conſiderable extent, that they avail themſelves of that privilege. The number of trading veſſels belonging to Gothenburg is about two hundred and fifty. About eight hundred foreign ſhips enter the harbour annually, and about five hundred Swediſh. One of the principal ſources of proſperity to Gothenburg is the herring fiſhery. Six hundred thouſand barrels of ſalted herrings have been known to be ſold in one year, and thirty thouſand barrels of oil. To one barrel of oil there is reckoned a proportion of ten or twelve barrels of herrings. Every ſuch barrel contains from a thouſand to fourteen hundred herrings. The fiſhing begins in October, and laſts till February, and ſometimes till March. The herrings are partly conſumed

ſumed in the country itſelf, and partly exported to the Baltic and the Mediterranean.

When a perſon is invited to dinner at Gothenburg, it is underſtood that he is to paſs with his hoſt the whole of the evening, and to conclude a pretty conſtant ſcene of eating and drinking by a plentiful ſupper. This is a practice common throughout all Sweden, Stockholm not excepted: but at the ſame time it is to be obſerved, that it does not now prevail in the houſes of the firſt order, but is limited to thoſe of the ſecond and inferior ranks. I am told that the caſe is very much the ſame in the principal towns in England and Scotland, including the city and mercantile part of London. It is the cuſtom in Sweden, as in other proteſtant countries where religious zeal is rather fervent, for every one at table to ſay a ſhort prayer to himſelf, both before and after the meal. When dinner is over, the gueſts return thanks to the maſter of the houſe for his good cheer; and he, on the other hand, aſſures his viſitors that they are heartily welcome. All this is done with ſo ſerious and ſolemn an air, that a ſtranger, if he did not recollect himſelf, might be tempted to laugh at this extraordinary ceremony. This manner, however, of returning thanks on the part of the gueſts, and the aſſurance of their being welcome on that of the maſter of the houſe, formerly appears to have been common throughout Great Britain, for traces of it ſtill remain in the provinces among the lower claſſes of the people; whoſe faſhions, cuſtoms, and modes of life, as well as opinions, have

have all of them, at ſome period or other, been thoſe alſo of the higher orders of ſociety. At great and formal dinners in Sweden, it is uſual to drink healths out of large ſilver cups filled with rheniſh or champaign. The cup goes round, and every one taſtes of it, ſimilar to the old cuſtom of *pledging*,* ſtill practiſed at ſome Engliſh corporation-feaſts. There are certain rules to be obſerved, with which the gueſts are previouſly made acquainted. If theſe be not duly attended to, the delinquent, by way of puniſhment, is obliged to drink off a whole cup.

It has been very generally remarked, and I believe juſtly, that the apothecaries of Gothenburg are not ſo ignorant as the ſame claſs of men in Paris, Amſterdam, and many other great cities. Men's preſumption and diſregard to conſequences being always in proportion to the narrowneſs of their education and underſtanding; we may juſtly fear that dreadful havoc is made, by theſe triers of experiments, among the blind and credulous multitude. At Gothenburg the apothecaries have the advantage of a liberal education; ſo that if the inhabitants have the ſame propenſity as thoſe of other places, to fly to theſe underlings of the medical art rather than to a phyſician, they may indulge it at leaſt with leſs danger.

* This cuſtom is obviouſly derived from the ſecurity found neceſſary to be given in Gothic ages, that an individual ſhould not be ſtabbed while he was taking his draught.

CHAPTER II.

Journey from Gothenburg to Stockholm—Trolhätta: the Cataracts, and the Canal, which is a moſt extraordinary Work—Some general Remarks occaſioned by this Canal—Book of Inſcriptions kept at Trolhätta—Face of the Country between Trollhätta and Stockholm—Agriculture in that Diſtrict, and its Produce—Mode of bedding the Horſes—Fithia, the laſt Stage before you come to Stockholm: Anecdote—Arrival at Stockholm: Want of Inns—Character of Mr. Malmgrein; his Attention to Strangers.

THE journey from Gothenburg to Trolhätta, a diſtance of about fifty miles, is often made by the Gothenburghers in the ſummer ſeaſon as a jaunt of pleaſure. Going out of the town you proceed along the banks of the river Götha, from which Gothenburg derives its name. After advancing about three miles, you leave behind you, on the right bank of the river, the ſmall fortreſs of Bohus, ſituated on the ſummit of a rock. The remainder of the road to Trolhätta is partly level and good, in ſome places hilly and unpleaſant; and part of it lies acroſs roundiſh and ſlippery rocks. There is only one place where one can be comfortably lodged: this is Eded, about thirty miles from Gothenburg, on the ſide of the Götha. It is aſtoniſhing that on a ſpot

a ſpot ſo much frequented as Trolhätta, both by foreigners and Swedes, there ſhould not be better accommodations; and that it never occurred to any one, as a good ſpeculation, to ſet up a new inn. In the one that now exiſts there are but four apartments: when theſe are occupied, there is no other houſe where a traveller can be decently lodged. Trolhätta is a place where the admirers of natural beauties, if they could be tolerably accommodated, would be tempted to ſtop for ſeveral days; as it is ſcarcely poſſible in leſs time to have any ſatisfactory view of the famous cataracts, and the canal, which is one of the boldeſt and moſt amazing works of the kind in the world. The cataracts are a ſeries of caſcades, formed by the river Götha, which iſſues from the lake of Wennern, and being united after many breaks, falls in its whole and undivided ſtream from a height of upwards of ſixty feet, into an unfathomable abyſs of water.

The canal of Trolhätta has been wrought through the midſt of rocks by the means of gunpowder. Its object was to open a communication between the North Sea and the lake of Wennern, by continuing the navigation where the Götha, daſhing down in cataracts, ceaſes to be navigable. All the bar-iron of Nericia, Warmerland, and other provinces, is tranſported in ſmall boats acroſs the lake of Wennern, and along the Götha, as far as the falls. By means of the new canal, the water carriage is prolonged beyond the cataracts to where the Götha becomes again navigable; and from thence the goods are eaſily conveyed on the river to Gothenburg. The obvious importance of ſuch a cut had long

attracted the attention of the Swediſh government, and they employed immenſe ſums, at different times, during almoſt a whole century, for the execution of it; notwithſtanding, this vaſt enterprize proceeded ſo ſlowly, and with ſo little effect, that it ſeemed to mock every human effort of ſtrength or ſkill. Its actual accompliſhment was reſerved to teach a very important leſſon to governments, and all great bodies of men, that though any undertaking ſhould languiſh and fail under their direction, yet it may be quickened, and may ſucceed, when it becomes the intereſt of individuals not to embezzle the general ſtock, when their fortune depends on their entering minutely into all the details of labour and expence, and on bringing the work as ſpeedily as poſſible to a juſt and happy concluſion. An aſſociation was formed of Gothenburg merchants and others, a joint ſtock was raiſed, the privilege of a toll on a future canal was granted and ſecured by government, ſhares in the eventual produce were ſold at higher and higher prices as the work advanced, and in the courſe of five or ſix years the canal was completed. The length of this canal, on which there are nine locks, is nearly three miles; the width thirty-ſix feet; the depth in ſome places above fifty. Baſins are formed at convenient diſtances for various purpoſes, which it is unneceſſary to enumerate. It is not eaſy for any one to form an idea of the difficulties that were to be ſurmounted in the formation of this wonderful canal, unleſs he had been an eye-witneſs. The ſpectator now views the ſmooth level as if it had been ſo always, and loſes ſight of the heights and rugged ſubſtances

through

through which it was neceſſary to penetrate before that level could be effected. I ſaw the canal not only when it was accompliſhed, but in its laborious progreſs toward completion. This canal, which was undertaken and begun by Charles XII. formed part of a grand plan meditated by Guſtavus Vaſa, and attempted by ſome of his ſucceſſors, for joining the Baltic with the North Sea by means of a communication cut through the kingdom. If ever a canal ſhould be extended from the lake of Wennern, which is the largeſt in Sweden, being about five hundred miles long and ſeventy-five broad, by Orebro to the lake of Hielmar, the Swedes may then, by a conjunction of this lake with that of Mälar, through the ſluices of Arboga, tranſport all kinds of merchandize in the ſame veſſel from Gothenburg to Stockholm. Thus a paſſage would be opened between the North Sea and the Baltic, and, among other advantages, the duties of the Sound would be avoided. The canal of Trolhätta may juſtly be conſidered as in ſome reſpects characteriſtical of the Swediſh nation; for it repreſents them as they are, prone to the conception of grand enterpriſes, and diſtinguiſhed by mechanical invention. As a work of art, and of bold and perſevering deſign, it is not too much to ſay, that it is the firſt in the world, even the Duke of Bridgewater's canal in England, and that of Languedoc in France, not excepted.

There is nothing that communicates to the mind a greater idea of human ſkill, than the means that have been diſcovered for conveying things from one place to another. The watery element, apparently

apparently deſtined to cut off all communication between countries, through the exertion and ingenuity of man, is converted into a vaſt and unbounded medium of their intercourſe. I do not recollect any thing that exhibits ſo ſenſible and ſtriking a triumph of art over nature, except perhaps the aſcent of the balloon into the atmoſphere: though this indeed is to be ranked among diſcoveries rather than inventions; and has not by any means given birth to ſuch a variety of ingenious contrivances as have been diſplayed in the application of the polarity of the magnet, and of lunar obſervations; in the extenſion of canals by the perforation of hills; in the erection of bridges, waterlocks, and ſluices; and in the conſtruction, *equipage*, and navigation of ſhips.

The firſt ideas, or the firſt elements as it were, of navigation, are preſented to man in his primitive, rude, and ſimple ſtate. Without entering into the queſtion, whether man is or was originally an amphibious animal, as has been maintained by one or two whimſical writers, we find that the uncivilized tribes are the moſt expert ſwimmers and divers. They live much in the water and on the water in queſt of fiſhes, in rivers, lakes, and inlets of the ſea. A tree or log, torn from the margin of ſome wood by the violence of a torrent or a ſtorm, and floating near them on the ſurface of the water, preſents itſelf as a kind of reſting place, where the exertions of the limbs and arms may be ſuſpended. If trees or beams can bear up a man in the water, it occurs at once that they will alſo bear up other things. They are immediately uſed for this purpoſe. The firſt boats accordingly, as we find

from

from the hiſtory of all ſavages, are trees excavated either by iron, or, previouſly to the uſe of iron, by the operation of fire. As the elements of navigation are ſimple and obvious, and as this is an art intimately connected with the purſuits of men in all ſtages of ſociety, both in war and peace, ſo we find that the extenſion and improvement of navigation has at all times been a favourite object with the greateſt princes and the moſt flouriſhing and adventurous republics. Thus we know that Charlemagne formed a deſign of uniting by means of a canal the Rhine and Danube; and Peter the firſt of Ruſſia projected a junction between the Don and Wolga, the execution of which was a favourite topic with Catharine II. though ſhe had not the good fortune to ſee it accompliſhed. It is reſerved only for ſuch a ſucceſſor as may equal that princeſs in extent of conception and ſpirit of enterpriſe.

The greater part of ſtates and princes act moſtly from tranſient intereſts, which they generally purſue with cabal and intrigue, varying their deſigns and expedients according to times and circumſtances, and therefore ſeldom producing a great effect. In proportion as they are lofty in their ambition and comprehenſive in their views, they overlook preſent difficulties and preſent advantages, in the proſpect of permanent power and future glory. Thus the Romans, undoubtedly the greateſt people with whom we are at all acquainted, being extenſive in their plans, were ſteady in their conduct. Like the laws of nature, they acted inceſſantly in all ſeaſons and all circumſtances. The Roman works, aqueducts, roads, walls, amphitheatres, and other ſtructures, were ſo

tranſcendantly

tranſcendantly great, that when the hiſtorical accounts of them were loſt in the dark ages, an opinion prevailed that they had been executed by ſupernatural and inviſible agents. The kings of Sweden, carrying back their views through a long line of anceſtry to a remote antiquity, and forward through proportionable ſpaces of time, were naturally inſpired with grand recollections and grand deſigns. Should an age of darkneſs again envelop Scandinavia, and bring back the reign of ignorance and ſuperſtition, the works of Trolhätta, like thoſe of the Romans, would doubtleſs be aſcribed to giants, fairies, or gods.

At Trolhätta a book is preſented to ſtrangers when they are about to leave the place; and they are requeſted to inſcribe their names in it, with ſome motto relative to the impreſſion made on their minds by the falls, or other local circumſtances. This book is one of the moſt curious miſcellanies any where to be ſeen, and is in my mind of more value than many other books, for the light it throws on the ſubject of human nature. Throughout the whole of this collection there reigns a particular humour; I mean a particular turn or temperament of mind, and what the French call *penchant*; an affectation of wit and ſingularity, and above all, an effort of ſelf-love, or ſelf-conſequence, which unveils, not obſcurely, the true character and weakneſs of man. Like thoſe epitaphs which loſe ſight of the dead to ſpeak of the living, almoſt all the inſcriptions in this, as well as in other memorials of the ſame kind, are more characteriſtic of their authors than of the ſubjects to which they refer. One takes an opportunity to ſhew

that

that he can make verſes; a ſecond, gives ſome account of his travels; a third, exalts his own opinion on the ruin of that of others; a fourth, ſets down his name merely for the purpoſe of diſplaying his title; while another, from a vanity of an oppoſite nature, writes his name ſimply and nothing more. There is one Engliſhman who tells you, that he went to ſee the cataracts by candle-light: another traveller of the ſame nation ſays, that neither the cataract nor the labour by which the canal was accompliſhed, is good for any thing; that the Swedes are all ſlaves, crouching under the laſh of their maſters; and, in order to expreſs his contempt, ſubſcribes theſe remarks by a very indecent name. A third Engliſhman, more enlightened as well as candid, rejoices to ſee gunpowder applied to better purpoſes than thoſe of war, though at the ſame time he is not of opinion that the condition of the people is bettered by commerce.* The French emigrants recount all their own misfortunes, and as well ſuited to the ſubject of Trolhätta, thoſe alſo of the King of France. One emigrant produces a long invective againſt the patriots. An Engliſhman writes nothing more than "What will you have us ſay?" The following, "Dieu beniſſe cette bonne et brave nation!† is ſigned Koſciuſco. An immenſe number of pedants make flouriſhes of Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Syriac and Arabic. In a word, the writers

* The words of this Engliſhman are—"It is pleaſing to ſee gunpowder uſed in "favour of ſociety, although we do not think that commerce will improve the "happineſs of the people."

† God bleſs this good and brave nation.

of inſcriptions at Trolhätta, become ſometimes ſo digreſſive from their ſubject, that travellers are found mutually reviling, and making perſonal alluſions to one another. At laſt the poor book itſelf was rudely attacked by the malignity of certain ſplenetic perſons, who were not ſatisfied with making many peeviſh comments, but even went the length of mutilating it, by tearing out ſome of its leaves. On my return through that place in 1800, the inſcription I had left in 1799 was not to be found. The reaſon why it had been implicated in the ſame fate with others, and torn out, I am wholly at a loſs to imagine. I do not recollect the very words, but I am certain that there was nothing in the ſentiments that could be juſt matter of offence to any body. What I ſaid was to this effect: that the cataracts and works at Trolhätta were objects which abundantly compenſated to two Italian travellers the want of any thing curious in the ſouthern parts of Sweden, and which could make them forget the beauties of their native country. I replaced my inſcription with the addition of the following beautiful lines by the Abbé Delille :—

Que ne peut point de l'art l'activité féconde!
C'eſt par elle que l'homme eſt ſouverain du monde,
De la nature en vain tu crois naître le roi,
Mortel! ſans le travail rien n'exiſte pour toi.
Ce globe n'eſt ſoumis à ta vaſte puiſſance,
Qu' à tître des conquêts, et non pas de naiſſance,

Et

Et tu n'es diſtingué parmis les animaux
Que par ton noble orgueil, ton génie, et tes maux.*

Leaving Trolhätta, we proceeded to Stockholm by Weſterland, Nericia, Sudermania, and the government of Stockholm. Though the country in the near vicinity of Gothenburg be bleak and barren, it improves greatly as you recede from that town and the ſea coaſt, and advance north-eaſt towards the capital. Woods, water, rocks, hills tufted with trees, vales and cultivated fields, give it not a very rich but a pleaſing aſpect. The woods, which become fine and thick on each ſide of the road, are ſometimes ſo extenſive as to ſtretch out their limits beyond the eye of the traveller. They conſiſt chiefly of oak, birch, mountain-aſh, and firs; all of them tall but ſlender, which perhaps is owing to the ſcanty ſoil in which they grow. The cattle are ſmall, and their fleeces hang down like the hair of goats. The horſes I have already deſcribed. But I ought to add, that when tolerably well fed, they are very active.

On the ſubject of horſes I muſt farther obſerve, that when we came to Strömſholm, a ſmall palace belonging to the King, on the lake of Mälar, we went to ſee the royal ſtables that were

* What may not be performed by the fertility of art? It is by her means that man has become lord of the world. It is a vain thing to fancy that he derives this title of ſovereignty from nature—Mortal! there is nothing thine, that does not become ſo through labour. This globe is not ſubjected to the vaſt extent of thy power by birth-right, but by that of conqueſt—thou art only diſtinguiſhed from other animals by a noble pride, by thy genius, and by thy miſeries!

highly ſpoken of, though they would be reckoned but very middling, or rather mean, in ſeveral other countries. I was ſurprized to find that there was no ſtraw or other bedding for the horſes. The animals ſtand or lie on perforated boards, like ſoldiers in barracks. This practice I found to be univerſal throughout all Scandinavia. It occurred to me that it might have had its origin in the œconomy of ſaving ſtraw for the cattle in a country where winter provender is ſo much wanted: and, perhaps, this may be really the caſe; though even in Denmark, where ſtraw and other provender are abundant, the ſame practice is followed. It has been approved by the Veterinary Colleges of both Stockholm and Copenhagen, and univerſally adopted by the royal and other great families, on account of its ſalutary effect on the foot of the horſe. In countries where the horſes ſtand in a hot-bed produced by their own litter, their feet become tender and ſubject to divers diſorders; but you very ſeldom ſee a lame or foundered horſe in Sweden or Denmark, which, if it is not to be aſcribed to the ſkill of the licenſed farriers, who are (at leaſt in the Daniſh dominions) all brought up in the Veterinary College, may, to a certain degree, be owing to the manner of keeping the horſe on boards inſtead of ſtraw. In moſt countries wood is dear and ſcarce: but if any other ſubſtitute could be found for ſtraw in the bedding of horſes, the reduction it would bring about in the price of hay and corn muſt be very great. It is well known that, in many places, ſtraw is the only food that is afforded during the winter months, for cattle and even horſes.

The

The Daniſh and Swediſh mode of lodging the horſes has, I have been informed, ſo far attracted the notice of his Royal Highneſs the Duke of York, who keeps a ſteady eye on whatever may contribute to the improvement of the army, that he has given orders for the erection of ſome barracks on that plan, by way of experiment. The reſult will be of great importance, if this bedding on boards, if I may ſay ſo, ſhall be found to preſerve the foot of the horſe, even though its expenſiveneſs ſhould prevent its general adoption.

The grain in the country from Gothenburgh to Stockholm, and I was informed throughout almoſt all Sweden, is rye, oats, peas, beans, and ſome barley. There is ſome wheat in Scania, and alſo in the environs of Upſala. This place was the reſidence of Odin, and ancient capital of Scandinavia; and in its vicinity there are many traces of cultivation, and remains of former ſplendour. In Sweden the ſtate of agriculture is greatly behind that of moſt other countries; the ridges are neither levelled nor evened, nor regularly divided. The ſoil is raiſed very conſiderably in the middle, while both ſides are more and more deprived of it, ſo that the edges are almoſt bare rock. Their winding form at both ends prevents the paſſage of the waters, to drain off which in ſuch a climate, ſhould be one of the principal objects. The freſh ground to be employed in agriculture is cleared of wood by fire, which ſpreads ſometimes too far, and leaves around the cultivated ſpot a wide and inhoſpitable waſte, inimical to vegetation. The deſtruction of the woods is undoubtedly the cauſe why certain diſtricts

tricts do not now produce the ſame grain, or quantity of grain, as formerly. Traces of furrows, now overgrown with heath or moſs, are every where found on moors and the brows of hills, in Scotland, Wales, and the North of England; and alſo in Sweden, Norway, and even in Iceland. It appeared remarkable that the wildeſt ſpots through which we paſſed in our way from Helſingburg to Gothenburg, and from thence to the capital, were not covered with heath, but moſs, or a coarſe kind of graſs commonly called *bent graſs*. The ſhocks of corn and what hay there is in Sweden are all placed on wooden frames, raiſed ſeveral feet above the ground. The ſheaves of corn ſet up to dry in the fields are not placed in two parallel rows, inclining towards and meeting each other at the top, with two cap or hooding-ſheaves, but in a circular form, and covered with one hooding-ſheaf expanded at the end, for warding off the rain.

The ſhepherds in Sweden, as well as in Iceland, have horns made of birch-wood. Two excavated pieces of birch-wood are clapped cloſe together, and bound tightly round with the bark of the ſame tree; ſo that one circular pipe is formed. The ſound made with this horn is ſhrill and woodland, but not unpleaſant. The ſheep and cattle will come together at certain places and times, obedient to this call. It is in the ſame manner that the cattle are collected by the herdſmen of the Alps. What I ſaw of the ſouth of Sweden affords certainly nothing very ſtriking to the eye, yet as the country is altogether agreeably varied, and in other reſpects offers much novelty of obſervation, it makes an intereſting

tereſting route for a traveller. The paradiſe of all Sweden is Scania, where many of the nobility and people of fortune fix their reſidence in ſummer. You meet there with fine avenues of trees and other improvements of art. But as it is not my intention to deſcribe the ſouthern provinces, I ſhall proceed no farther in my account, nor do I mean to enter into a detail of the different towns in this part of my journey. Lidköping, Marieſtadt, Orebrö, and Arboga, might paſs for fourth rate towns in France or Italy. The laſt ſtage, or poſt-houſe, called Fithia, is remarkable for nothing ſo much as its double meaning in the Swediſh language, when it is pronounced by ſtrangers. I was told by different perſons that this ambiguity frequently ſerved as a ſubject of great amuſement to Guſtavus III. who would ſometimes at his table, in a very audible voice, aſk any ſtranger that might happen to be preſent, the queſtion, how he liked the laſt poſt-houſe he had paſſed in coming to Stockholm, viz. Fithia. The ſtranger, ignorant of the equivocation, perhaps ſaid that he liked the houſe very well; or that he thought it but a contemptible little place. On which the king would, with little regard to delicacy, fall a laughing, and, looking ſignificantly at the ladies, obſerve, that Mr. Such-a-one was in the right; that Fithia was indeed but a paltry little place. This anecdote is introduced here, ſolely for the purpoſe of warning ſtrangers againſt mentioning this poſt-houſe in the company of Swediſh ladies.

We arrived at Stockholm on the 19th of September, 1799, at nine o'clock at night. As we had not uſed the precaution of previouſly

viouſly writing to order lodgings, we were greatly embarraſſed, becauſe there are no inns at Stockholm, as in other towns. There was indeed one ſet up by a Frenchman; but having made a fortune in a few years, this man retired from buſineſs, and left his houſe to a Swede, who knew not how to manage it. When we arrived at this inn, all the apartments were occupied; and we ſhould have been utterly at a loſs how to paſs the night, if we had not been ſo fortunate as to meet at the door Mr. Malmgrein, the moſt amiable and obliging man in all Sweden. There is not a traveller that has ever been at Stockholm, but will ſee with pleaſure in theſe pages the name of that gentleman, and perhaps recollect, upon this occaſion, ſome act of kindneſs ſhewn to himſelf by that truly benevolent and eſtimable perſon. Mr. Malmgrein, who has but little to do or care for, places his happineſs in acts of complaiſance and goodneſs to others, and particularly in ſhewing attention and kindneſs to ſtrangers. He is always in motion, and always in an equal good humour. I believe he was never known to be ruffled or diſcompoſed by ſpleen or anger. He is the friend of every one in Stockholm, from the greateſt lord to the humbleſt burgeſs, and equally reſpected, beloved and careſſed by all. Every body is happy to gratify any wiſh of Mr. Malmgrein's, a circumſtance which he rarely turned to his own account, though he never miſſed an opportunity of uſing it for the benefit of others. He is the inventor of a game at cards in great vogue at Stockholm. He has his eye on every thing that paſſes; he is the great maſter of ceremonies on all occaſions; and wherever

you

you meet Mr. Malmgrein, there you alſo find harmony and good order. To the ladies he ſhews all the little attentions in his power, and appears ever ready and eager to oblige them. It may ſurprize the fair, that this man, who poſſeſſes the advantage of a fine perſon, ſhould be ſo active and conſtant in their ſervice from motives of the pureſt and moſt diſintereſted nature: in ſhort, this man ſtands ſingle in his kind; he has no enemies, becauſe he has no ambition; he has no care, becauſe he has no intereſt to purſue; he has no flatterers, becauſe he has no favourite weakneſs; he never experiences any aggreſſions, becauſe he poſſeſſes in his integrity a ſhield for their repulſion. Such was the firſt perſon we met with at Stockholm, when we were ſeeking for ſome place to paſs the night in, that we might not be obliged to remain in the carriage till morning. It will not appear ſurprizing, after the character I have given of Mr. Malmgrein, that in the ſpace of half an hour he provided us with lodgings, a coach-houſe for our carriage, a valet de place, and ſent to our apartments an excellent ſupper. On the very ſame evening he would needs ſhew us the city. As we were looking about for lodgings, he pointed out us the ſtatue of Guſtavus III. the Princeſs's Palace, the Opera-Houſe, and the North Bridge, at the ſame time giving a particular account, with the greateſt rapidity, of the ſums employed in the conſtruction of thoſe edifices, and other particulars; when they were begun, and by whom; how they were carried on, accidents that delayed their accompliſhment, and when they were finiſhed. At firſt I took him for a valet de place; but when I perceived

that he was ſaluted in a very familiar manner by the gentlemen that paſſed us in the ſtreet, and that all the people, wherever we went to enquire for lodgings, anſwered his queſtions with the greateſt reſpect, and apparent readineſs and deſire to oblige him, I did not well know what to think of my friend. In the morning we were awakened early by a band of military muſic, that did us the honours of the place at the door of our bedchamber. Having a greater inclination to ſleep than to hear their performance, we gave them ſome ſix-dollars, and wiſhed them a good-morrow: but we were deceived in our calculations; as they found it worth their while, they came again two days after to wiſh us good bye. But as we did not like a continuation of this practice, we ſuffered them to depart without taking any farther notice of their civility. Next day, when we went to preſent ſome of our letters of introduction, we were aſtoniſhed to find that all the gentlemen to whom they were addreſſed were already apprized of our viſit. They were acquainted with the time of our arrival, and with what happened to us ſince; they knew in what ſort of carriage we had come, the route we had taken, where we lodged, who was our lackey, what was our dreſs, &c. &c. Theſe circumſtances did not impreſs us with any great idea of the capital of Sweden; and we anticipated thoſe inconveniencies which are uſually experienced in a large capital, but without the pleaſing freedom of living at perfect eaſe, and juſt as one pleaſes, amidſt the obſcurity of an immenſe capital.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER III.

Topographical Deſcription of Stockholm—Change produced in its Appearance by the Ice—Violence of the Cold that prevails in Winter—Some Objects mentioned which are peculiar to the Winter Seaſon: Water-Carts, Sledges, &c.—A Sugar-Houſe on Fire, and the curious Effects of the Froſt—The Seaſon of Summer: Country Life of the Nobility and Gentry—Their Diverſions and Amuſements—Paſſion of the Swedes for Cards and Gaming—Environs of Stockholm—Drottningholm: the Royal Palace—Annual Tournament at Drottningholm—The Royal Park at Stockholm—Royal Proceſſion and yearly Feſtival in the Park.

IN order to form an idea of the romantic poſition of Stockholm, it will be well to caſt a look over the accompanying map. There are few cities in Europe more advantageouſly ſituated than the one of which I am ſpeaking, whether it be conſidered in a commercial point of view, or with regard to the variety of ſcenery that preſents itſelf to the eye. The latter is particularly enhanced by the different proſpects of the water with which the city is every where indented and encompaſſed. From a want of topographical knowledge, *two Frenchmen*, in their tour to the North, ſay, "that only the city of Stockholm, properly ſo called,

" is built on an iſland." But the fact is, that the greater part of what is called Stockholm is ſituated, not on one, but ſeven or eight iſlands, of which ſome are ſurrounded by the freſh water of the lake Mälar, and ſome by the ſalt water of the ſea. The city, properly ſo called, ſtands on an iſland in the midſt of the whole: to the weſt it is waſhed by freſh, and to the eaſt by ſalt water, being placed at the junction of the lake Mälar with the Baltic Sea. The aggregate of the iſles of Stockholm is as follows: 1. Stadenholmen, or City Iſland: 2. Riddarholmen, or the Knights' Iſland, in which is the Town Houſe, and in front of this a ſtatue of Guſtavus Vaſa. 3. Helgelandſholmen, or the iſle of the Holy Ghoſt. It was here, in the time of Magnus Ladiſlaus, that an important act was paſſed by the diet, or parliament, in the year 1282, for annexing many large domains to the crown. 4. Skippiſholmen, or the iſle of Ships, called in the map Admiralſtatesholmen. Here are barracks and magazines for the flotilla. With this, the little iſland of Caſtelholmen is connected by a ſmall bridge. 5. Blasiiholmen, or the iſle of Blaſius: this, however, cannot be ſtrictly called an iſland, becauſe on one ſide the channel has been filled up by the formation of the king's gardens, ſo that it is now joined to the continent. It is here that the faction of the Hats, which was in favour of king Albrecht, in 1389, committed the horrid cruelty of burning alive two hundred Swedes. The party in oppoſition to the Hats, as is well known, were the Caps; becauſe they wore this article of dreſs, which was conſidered as the patriotic diſtinction of the nation. It was in Albrecht's reign that

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Sweden fell under the ſway of the renowned Semiramis of the North, Margaret of Norway.* 6. Ladugrådſlandet, or the land of Farms, which was formerly, but is no longer, an iſland. 7. Konungaholmen, or King's Iſland. 8. Longholmen, or Long Iſland.

There is a great variety of ſtations in this inſulated and penin-

* In 1365, Magnus, king of Sweden, had formed the deſign of aboliſhing the ſenate, and humbling the pretenſions of the Swediſh nobles and prelates, who were in fact ſo many petty ſovereigns. But ſo bold a ſcheme it was not in the power of Magnus to accompliſh, though ſupported by an alliance with Denmark. The Swediſh arms, in the cauſe of liberty, have always been invincible. Magnus, with his hated adherents, after a ſeries of bloody battles, was driven out of the kingdom, and his nephew, Albert of Mecklenburg, was proclaimed king of Sweden in his ſtead. Albert, inſtead of profiting by the diſaſters of his predeceſſor, followed his example, and ſhared his fate. He began his reign with taking poſſeſſion of all the caſtles and ſtrong holds of the principal nobility, and re-united to the royal domains more than a third of the fiefs that had for a long time been in the hands of the gentlemen, or inferior nobility, and the clergy. In order farther to proſecute his plans, he introduced into all parts of the kingdom military corps of foreigners; and for their maintenance levied heavy contributions, and ſeized, without ſcruple or ceremony, the property of rich individuals, whether of laymen or of the clergy. The Swediſh nobles, fired with indignation and reſentment, declared to the king, that they no longer owned him for their ſovereign, and offered the crown and ſceptre to Margaret, queen of Norway. The ambitious Margaret did not heſitate to embrace ſo inviting an opportunity for annexing Sweden to her dominions. She raiſed an army, and at its head marched againſt Albert. This prince fancying that he had nothing to fear from a woman, amuſed himſelf with various railleries at the expence of the queen. Among other jokes he ſent her a large ſtone, which he deſired her to uſe for the purpoſe of ſharpening her ſciſſars and needles. Similar defiances, embittered by coarſe ſarcaſms, we find common to all rude nations. The defeat of Albert in 1388 put an end to his jeſts. He was taken captive, carried before the queen, and by her thrown into priſon; from which he was not liberated until he had renounced all claims and pretenſions to the Crown of Sweden.

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ſulated capital, from which you may ſurvey its manifold and ſingular beauties. Steeples, houſes, rocks, trees, lakes, and the caſtle, which rears its head above the whole, preſent to the eye a moſt intereſting picture. But the point of view which is more ſtriking than all the others, and where every ſtranger ſhould ſtop and look around him, is the north bridge. Turning towards the city, you have in front a view of its whole extent, and of the forepart of the caſtle, which ſtands on the brow of a hill. This is a work of ſuperb architecture, ſimple indeed, but noble and majeſtic; not incumbered with that load of uſeleſs ornaments, which greatly disfigured the caſtle or palace of Copenhagen, as may ſtill be ſeen from the ruins that were left by the fire, which has nearly deſtroyed that magnificent ſtructure. Thence, on the right, your eye takes a wide range; and perceives, among other objects, a number of hills adorned with houſes or with fir-trees, and reſts with delight on a ſmall iſland, embelliſhed with a pavilion or ſummer houſe, which is reflected by the limpid ſurface of the water, and exhibits a moſt pleaſing appearance. Near to this building, on the right hand, ſtands the beautiful houſe of the Count de Bunge, where a club is held, diſtinguiſhed by the name of *the Society*. A proſpect as much diverſified, and not leſs extenſive, is opened towards the eaſt, comprehending at ſome diſtance the iſle of Blaſius, which communicates by means of a wooden bridge with Ships-iſland. To the left you ſee the theatre or play-houſe, and to the north you obſerve the Nordermalm or north-place, in the centre of which ſtands a guilt ſtatue in bronze

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of Guſtavus Adolphus. On two ſides of this ſquare, the right and the left, are two edifices, the fronts of which are in exact correſpondence and ſymmetry with each other. One of them is the palace of the princeſs royal, and the other the opera-houſe. It is much to be regretted that the houſes in this place are not built in ſuch a ſtyle and order as to anſwer to theſe buildings. If they were altered and embelliſhed in a manner analagous to the princeſs's palace and the opera-houſe, I will venture to ſay, that there are few cities which would afford ſuch a magnificent point of view as the north bridge of Stockholm would then afford. To this is to be added the effect produced on the imagination, by the noiſe of the water ruſhing in a violent cataract through the arches of the bridge, which completes the romantic aſſemblage. After what has been ſaid of the ſituation of Stockholm, it will be eaſy to conceive what a change the appearance of the whole ſcene muſt undergo by the oppoſite ſeaſons.

The grand and moſt diſtinguiſhed feature in the locality of that city, namely, being ſituated on iſlands amidſt gulfs and lakes, is deſtroyed by the ice. The ſame water which divides the inhabitants of the different quarters in ſummer unites them in winter. It becomes a plain which is traverſed by every body. The iſlands are iſlands no longer: horſes in ſledges, phaetons, and in vehicles of all ſorts placed on ſkates, ſcour the gulf and lakes by the ſide of ſhips fixed in the ice, and aſtoniſhed as it were to find themſelves in ſuch company on the ſame element. Thoſe lakes, which in ſummer were brightened by the

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clear tranſparency of their waters reflecting every object on their banks, and preſenting the animated picture of ſkiffs, oars, and ſmall ſails, are now turned into a place of rendezvous for men and children mingling in one throng. They walk, ſlide, fly about in ſledges, or glide along on ſmall ſkates. In the exerciſe of ſkating they diſplay great dexterity and addreſs, and amuſe the ſpectators with the eaſe and quickneſs of their various movements; darting forward with the ſpeed of arrows; turning and returning, and balancing their bodies according to inclination and circumſtances, in ſuch a manner that it is ſometimes difficult to imagine what can be their principle of motion. There is no part of this great maſs of water that is not arreſted and ſubdued by the froſt, except the current under the north bridge, and on the ſouth near the king's ſtables. Here the water, which during the keeneſt froſt daſhes and foams with great noiſe through the arches of the bridge, ſends up majeſtic clouds of vapour to a conſiderable height in the atmoſphere; where, in the extreme rigour of winter, being converted by the intenſeneſs of the cold into ſolid particles, they are precipitated down through their weight, and preſenting their ſurface to the ſun, aſſume the appearance of a ſhower of ſilver ſand, reflecting the ſolar rays, and adorned with all manner of colours. In the interior of Stockholm, throughout all its different quarters, every thing in winter in like manner undergoes a ſudden change. The ſnow that begins to fall in the latter weeks of autumn covers and hides the ſtreets for the ſpace of ſix months; and renders them more plea-

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ſant and convenient than they are in ſummer or autumn; at which ſeaſons, partly on account of the pavement, and partly on account of the dirt, they are often almoſt impaſſable. One layer of ſnow on another, hardened by the froſt, forms a ſurface more equal and agreeable to walk on, which is ſometimes raiſed more than a yard above the ſtones of the ſtreet. You are no longer ſtunned by the irkſome noiſe of carriage-wheels; but this is exchanged for the tinkling of little bells, with which they deck their horſes before the ſledges. The only wheels now to be ſeen in Stockholm are thoſe of ſmall carts, employed by men ſervants of families to fetch water from the pump in a caſk. This compound of cart and caſk always ſtruck me as a very curious and extraordinary object; inſomuch, that I once took the trouble of following it, in order to have a nearer view of the whimſical robe in which the froſt had inveſted it, and particularly of the variegated and fantaſtical drapery in which the wheels were covered and adorned. This vehicle, with all its appertenances, afforded to a native of Italy a very ſingular ſpectacle. The horſe was wrapped up, as it ſeemed, in a mantle of white down, which under his breaſt and belly was fringed with points and tufts of ice. Stalactical ornaments of the ſame kind, ſome of them to the length of a foot, were alſo attached to his noſe and mouth. The ſervant that attended the cart had on a frock, which was encruſted with a ſolid maſs of ice. His eye-brows and hair jingled with icicles, which were formed by the action of the froſt on his breath and perſpiration. Sometimes the water in the pump was

frozen, ſo that it became neceſſary to melt it by the injection of a red-hot bar of iron. I have attempted to make a drawing of this carriage; but it is difficult for art to imitate the operations and effects of the froſt, diſplayed in the various appearances of the ice; its tranſparency and the fantaſtical beauty of its embroideries are not eaſily copied. For the purpoſe of rendering the deſign more intereſting, I have choſen the pump at the bridge near the Mint: this gave me an opportunity of introducing into the piece that edifice, which was very near the houſe called Roſenadleſka, where we lodged, and formed an angle of the ſtreet leading to the ſquare of Riddarholmen. In the ſame plate I have added a repreſentation of one of thoſe ſmall ſledges that are uſed for the conveyance of goods or luggage from one place to another, which are peculiar, I believe, to the city of Stockholm. Neither men nor women carry any thing on their heads or ſhoulders, but employ theſe ſledges, which they puſh on before them. When they come to a declivity, they reſt with their left hip and thigh on the ſledge, and glide down to the bottom with a velocity, which to a ſtranger appears both aſtoniſhing and frightful, guiding all the while the motion of the ſledge with their right foot. The addreſs with which they perform this, it is not eaſy for any one to conceive who has not witneſſed it. If you add to the objects which I have been deſcribing, the curious appearance of the many different pellices that are worn with the furs on the outſide, you will imagine what a ſtriking ſcene the ſtreets of Stockholm in winter preſent to a foreigner, eſpecially to one that came from the ſouthern part of Europe.

To face p. 42. Vol. I.

A Winter Scene in Stockholm.

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In the winter 1799, I beheld at Stockholm a ſpectacle of a very uncommon nature, and ſuch as I never, in all probability, ſhall ſee a ſecond time. It was a ſugar-houſe on fire in the ſuburb, on the ſouth ſide of the city. The accident being announced by the diſcharge of cannon, all the fire engines were immediately hurried to the aid of the owners. The ſeverity of that winter was ſo great, that there was not a ſingle ſpot near, where the water was not frozen to the depth of a yard from the ſurface. It was neceſſary to break the ice with hatchets and hammers, and to draw up the water as from a well. Immediately on filling the caſks, they were obliged to carry them off with all poſſible ſpeed, leſt the water ſhould be congealed, as in fact about a third part of it was by the time it could be brought to the place where it was wanted. In order to prevent it as much as poſſible from freezing, they conſtantly kept ſtirring it about with a ſtick; but even this operation had only a partial effect. At laſt, by the united power of many engines, which launched forth a great maſs of water, the fire was got under, after deſtroying only the roof, the houſe itſelf being very little damaged. It was in the upper ſtories of the building that the ſtock of ſugar was depoſited; there were alſo many veſſels full of treacle, which being broken by the falling-in of the roof, the juice ran down along the ſides of the walls. The water thrown up to the top of the houſe by the engines, and flowing back on the walls, ſtair-caſes, and through the windows, was ſtopped in its downward courſe by the mighty power of the froſt. After the fire was extinguiſhed,

the engines continued for ſome time to play, and the water they diſcharged was frozen almoſt the inſtant it came in contact with the walls already covered with ice. Thus a houſe was formed of the moſt extraordinary appearance that it is poſſible to conceive. It was ſo curious an object that every body came to gaze at it as a ſomething wonderful. The whole building, from top to bottom, was incruſtated with a thick coat of ice: the doors and windows were cloſed up, and in order to gain admiſſion it was neceſſary with hammers and hatchets to open a paſſage; they were obliged to cut through the ice another ſtair-caſe, for the purpoſe of aſcending to the upper ſtories. All the rooms, and what remained of the roof, were embelliſhed by long ſtalactites of multifarious ſhapes, and of a yellowiſh colour, compoſed of the treacle and congealed water. This building, contemplated in the light of the ſun, ſeemed to bear ſome analogy to thoſe diamond caſtles that are raiſed by the imaginations of poets. It remained upwards of two months in the ſame ſtate, and was viſited by all the curious. The children in particular had excellent amuſement with it, and contributed not a little to the deſtruction of the enchanted palace, by ſearching for the particles of ſugar, which were found in many places incorporated with the ice.

The change of the ſeaſons produces at Stockholm, as every where elſe, a difference in the amuſements and occupations of the people. But it is not in many places that this difference is ſo ſenſibly felt as at Stockholm. During the long days of ſummer, when the twilight for more than a whole month ſuperſedes the

the uſe of candles, all the inhabitants of tolerable fortunes quit the town and retire to the country. There they continue the three or four following months, in ſpite of every inconvenience which the weather may occaſion. Their country houſes are fitted up in a ſtyle of great magnificence and luxury, and many families live at more expence in theſe manſions than in their town reſidences. Thoſe villas are for the moſt part pleaſantly ſituated, and embelliſhed by works of art, which ſecond and improve the efforts of nature. You there find hot-houſes, in which they raiſe peaches, pine-apples, grapes, and other fruit. All kinds of wines, liquors, and other delicacies, are laviſhed at the table of a Swediſh gentleman, or rich manufacturer, or merchant, in the country. The ceremonies and ſtiffneſs that prevail at town entertainments, are as much as poſſible laid aſide. The houſes of the merchants are the moſt agreeable as well as the beſt maintained, becauſe they live in the moſt unreſtrained manner, that is to ſay, with the leaſt etiquette, and are the richeſt claſs of ſociety. The nobility never can diveſt themſelves entirely of that formality which ſeems to be a part of their inheritance, and conſequently they do not enjoy the pleaſures of the country in perfection. The two French travellers previouſly mentioned, who certainly entertained no prejudices againſt the nobility, made the ſame remark in their journey through Scania; and it may be juſtly extended to the whole of that order in every part of Sweden. "Many gentlemen," they ſay, "paſs the ſummer in the country, and ſome

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" of them the whole year. But a reſidence in this province, from " a ridiculous vanity, is by no means ſo agreeable as it might be. " The viſits of gentlemen to one another are always viſits of cere- " mony. They are attended with their horſes, dogs, and a train " of ſervants, and remain at each others houſes for ſeveral days to- " gether. Their round of viſits being made, they live at home " for the remainder of the year. They are ſo conceited of their " rank, that they will not admit women of inferior birth into their " company, even though they be married to perſons of the higheſt " quality."

The Swedes know nothing of horſe-racing, nor are they at all acquainted with what the Engliſh call hunting. When they ſpeak of the chace, they mean by it the ſport of ſhooting game. In this they fancy themſelves great adepts, though they have not attained to any degree of ſkill in the art, and are by no means to be compared to the ſportſmen of Italy or England. Hawking, and the various modes of catching birds, which conſtitute ſo great a ſource of amuſement in Lombardy, are wholly unknown to them; nor do they take any great pleaſure in riding on horſe-back, or in other diverſions and ſports of the field, that yield a mixture of pure air and bodily exerciſe. The great enemy to the ſpirit of ſociety in Sweden, both in town and country, and that which renders their parties the moſt heavy and inſipid in Europe, is cards and other games of hazard. Ladies and gentlemen, old and young, neither think nor dream of any thing but cards. There

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is no enjoyment without play. No perſon is looked upon as ſociable and pleaſant, unleſs he knows how to play at *boſton*:* this is reckoned the height of ſocial accompliſhment. All you can do in ſummer in the open air for your amuſement, is to make excurſions in the environs of Stockholm, or to ſaunter in the garden of Vauxhall, which is an humble imitation of that near London. As for walking about in the town, that is out of the queſtion, on account of the pavement of the ſtreets, which, I believe, is by far the worſt that can be met with in Europe. There are ſometimes carriage-races, and alſo boat-races, or what they call *regatta*, which ſerve as a temporary diverſion. The principal walks or excurſions are, to the royal parks at Ulrikſdal, Haga, Drottningholm, and Carleberg. The king has ſome palaces in the vicinity of Stockholm, beſides theſe of Gripſholm, and Strömſholm; but the moſt beautiful, as well as the moſt frequently inhabited, is that of Drottningholm.

Drottningholm, or Queen's Iſland, is ſituated at the diſtance of ſix miles from Stockholm, on an iſland in the lake of Mälar. The palace or caſtle ſtands on the edge of the lake, which here preſents a magnificent view. The ſituation of the palace is beautiful, and the gardens belonging to it being of conſiderable extent add much to its allurements. This building appears to great advantage. The front and back parts are perfectly uniform, each containing thirty-one windows, beſides thoſe in the two pavilions or wings. Near the place is a number of houſes, in which one

* Boſton is the name of a game at cards not unlike that of caſino.

hundred

hundred and ſeventy gentlemen may be conveniently lodged. The princes and princeſſes have each ſeparate pavilions. The ſide of the palace fronting the lake has a flight of ſteps, with a baluſtrade, which is ornamented with iron flower-pots. On a kind of platform, between the ſteps and the caſtle, ſtand two ſmall ſtatues in bronze; and another of the ſame compoſition is placed between the ſteps and the lake, repreſenting Neptune. On the ſtair-caſe are two lions of marble holding ſcutcheons, and ſeveral other marble ſtatues. On the oppoſite ſide of the palace, parallel to the whole length of the building, is a terrace adorned with a baluſtrade, and two brazen ſtatues. In the midſt of a graſs-plot, or bowling-green, on which a few yew-trees are planted, is a large baſin of water, with a Hercules deſtroying the hydra: there are, beſides this, ſeveral pieces of water of ſmall ſize, and a number of figures in bronze are arranged around thoſe baſins. At each end of the terrace is an iron gate, over one of which are two lions in bronze, and over the other two horſes. Deſcending from the terrace, you ſee four large vaſes and four ſtatues of the ſame metal. All the works in bronze which you obſerve here, were taken at Prague in the thirty years war. On one of the vaſes you perceive the cypher of the Emperor Ferdinand II. They are, for the moſt part, in the ſtyle of the Florentine ſchool, in which the German artiſts uſed at that time chiefly to ſtudy. The walks in the garden are well laid out, but in a faſhion that approaches too much the ſtiffneſs of ſtudied regularity. One quarter of it, called *Canton*, is an imitation of the Chineſe manner. Here is erected a large pavilion amidſt

amidſt a dozen of ſmaller ones, each deſtined for different purpoſes: the whole reſembles the reſidence of a mandarin. Of the ſmaller pavilions there is one that contains a complete forge and work-ſhop, with the neceſſary apparatus for making locks, an art in which Guſtavus III. is ſaid to have excelled, and which he frequently practiſed. It is euſtomary, among Mahomedan princes, or perhaps a duty enjoined by their laws, to learn in their youth ſome trade, by means of which they may gain a ſubſiſtence, in caſe of their being reduced to that neceſſity by ſome of thoſe ſudden revolutions, which are incident to all deſpotic governments. I do not ſuppoſe that Guſtavus III. was actuated by any ſuch motive; but as this prince, from ſome reaſon or other, choſe to be a mechanic, there was a ſingular propriety in a king of Sweden becoming an artificer in braſs and iron. The other pavilions ſerve for bedrooms, for ſupper-rooms, dancing and card-rooms. The furniture, which is very ſplendid, was brought from China; but, after all, the object with which a ſpectator is moſt forcibly impreſſed in the pleaſure-grounds of Drottningholm, is the contraſt between trees and flowers and barren rocks. In the palace itſelf is to be ſeen an elegant library, fitted up with great taſte. Beſides a well choſen collection of books, it contains a number of Etrurian vaſes, ſome of them highly valuable. Among an immenſe number of manuſcripts, there is one by the celebrated Queen Chriſtiana, entitled *Miſcellaneous Thoughts*; alſo a copy in the hand-writing of Charles XII. when a child; on one of the leaves of which is in-

ſcribed *vincere aut mors.** Many paſſages are here tranſcribed from Cornelius Nepos and Quintus Curtius. Beſides books, the library comprehends a cabinet of natural hiſtory and another of antient and modern medals, and likewiſe a collection of original Flemiſh, Dutch, and Italian paintings. The whole forms a monument of that love of ſcience, and taſte for the fine arts, which ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed the queen of Sweden, mother to Guſtavus III. and ſiſter to Frederic the Great of Pruſſia. The medals are depoſited in eight cheſts, with one hundred and twenty drawers. The princeſs juſt mentioned inſtituted alſo an academy of belles-lettres, who, during her life time, held their meetings at Drottningholm. The palace of Drottningholm farther offers to your view a gallery of paintings, the principal ſubjects of which are, the battles and victories of the kings and princes of Sweden.

Every year an exhibition takes place at Drottningholm, at the king's expence, repreſenting a tournament, in which all the laws of chivalry are obſerved with the greateſt exactneſs. This ſhew, which is generally attended by an immenſe crowd of ſpectators, carries the imagination back for four or five centuries. It was particularly brought into vogue by Guſtavus III. who was a great lover of whatever tended to impreſs the mind with ideas of grandeur. His preſent Majeſty, who ſhews a diſpoſition to tread in the footſteps of his father as much as poſſible, after his acceſſion to

* Victory or death.

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the throne revived this yearly feſtival, which during the regency had been for ſome time diſcontinued. When I was in Sweden, the day fixed for the celebration was the 30th of Auguſt. A few days before a grand ball was given, during which the crown herald entered the room, and proclaimed the royal challenge in the following words: "Guſtavus the fourth, Adolphus, by the grace of "God, the moſt puiſſant king of the Swedes, Goths, and Vandals, "to all our faithful and beloved counts, barons, knights, and gen- "tlemen of our kingdom, poſſeſſed of gallantry and virtue, health. "We make them a tender of our royal good will, and we pray God "to have them in his holy keeping, all and every one of them, "according to his birth, rank, and dignity. Having obſerved with "pleaſure that the nobility of our kingdom in general, and more "eſpecially thoſe who are neareſt our perſon, the officers of our "crown, and other gentlemen belonging to our court, are ſtill "animated with the noble deſire of glory, with the valour and "ardour for brave actions, by which the knights of Sweden were "ſo greatly diſtinguiſhed of old; and that our ſaid nobility hath "on all occaſions given ſtriking proofs of courage; and being "willing, after the example of our anceſtors, to do all within our "power to cheriſh and ſupport that precious love of honour, "which forms heroes in the very midſt of peace; and further, "to preſerve a taſte for warlike exerciſes, by affording opportu- "nities to thoſe poſſeſſed of military ſpirit to ſignalize themſelves: "for thoſe reaſons we have reſolved, according to antient cuſtom, "to hold a public tournament at our caſtle of Drottningholm,

" where, in conjunction with a number of knights, counts, " barons, and other gentlemen of name and arms, *we will main-* " *tain and defend* againſt all who ſhall lawfully be admitted to " theſe exerciſes, and ſhall preſent themſelves at the barriers of the " circus, and in the preſence of judges elected for the occaſion, as " well againſt all collectively as againſt each individually, *that the* " *laws of honour, enlivened by thoſe of love, acquire double force in* " *the hearts of valorous knights*; which opinion we and our knights, " armed at all points, will defend on horſeback againſt all the " knights who ſhall oppoſe it, by jouſts and alternate combats, " with halberd, javelin, ſword, and piſtols; in which combat the " laws ſhall be obſerved which we now preſcribe." (Here the laws were recited.) Theſe laws or conditions were accepted by the knights, who promiſed to preſent themſelves on this honourable appeal, and to maintain, *That the laws of honour have ſufficient power of themſelves in the hearts of valorous knights, and that, ſo far from receiving any additional force from love, it is, on the contrary, by uniting with chivalry, that love obtains its ſplendour and duration*; and thereupon they craved liberty to appoint, as judges on their part, one who was named in their declaration or deed of acceptance. As to the particulars of this fête, which laſted ſeveral days, it will be ſufficient to ſay, that every thing was attended to which we read of in the accounts of ancient tournaments, and that the prizes were diſtributed on the laſt day, under the direction of the queen, according to the ſentence of the appointed judges. By one of the laws it was granted that the knights might wear upon their armour

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the ribbands or favours of their ladies. It was in the power of the ladies to propoſe prizes for which the knights were to contend, by running at the ring. This, I believe, is the only inſtance in our days of an attempt being made to reſtore a ſpecies of diverſion, which for ſeveral ages had fallen into diſuſe, though in former times it was extremely popular. It was ſuited to the manners of that period in which it flouriſhed, and productive not only of pleaſure but real utility. This can at preſent ſcarcely be ſuppoſed to be the caſe, as the mode of warfare and the ſpirit of heroiſm now exiſting, ſeem to require exerciſe and accompliſhments of a very different kind. It is not eaſy to aſcertain preciſely the epoch when tournaments were firſt inſtituted, nor can we with certainty determine on the patron to whom the honour of the invention is due. It is claimed by the Engliſh, the French, and Germans: yet we may ſo far fix the time, as to aſſume that tournaments began to be known about the ninth century, and that they are of eaſtern origin. In the early period of the inſtitution, it was not uſual for females to attend at the tournaments, but ſubſequently they overcame their reluctance to ſcenes of bloodſhed, and never failed to form a conſiderable part of the circle of ſpectators. No doubt their preſence added greatly to the brilliancy of the aſſemblage, and contributed much to the repute and continuation of this barbarous inſtitution.

It may be obſerved, that the name *tournament* was originally beſtowed upon all kinds of military combats and exerciſes, achieved, according to certain regulations, by a number of knights and their ſquires, both for amuſement and to ſhew their valour and activity.

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On the other hand, *jouſt* ſignified ſingle combat, when knight was oppoſed to knight, and ſquire to ſquire, with javelin or dagger. After the proclamation of a tournament, and whilſt the place of action was preparing, the knights diſplayed their titles and rights for entering the liſts, by an exhibition of the armorial bearings of their families, which were expoſed to public view in the cloiſters of ſome adjoining monaſtery.

The royal park which is very large, and planted with trees of various kinds, is ſituated at the eaſt ſide of Stockholm, towards the ſea. On the firſt day of May the king and all the court, in their carriages, accompanied by a guard, go in proceſſion round the park two or three times. Sometimes the king and prince will alight from their carriages, and converſe with the foreign miniſters or other favourites, who happen to be preſent at this ceremony. On a ſmall eminence of the park which projects into the ſea, the Spaniſh ambaſſador has not long ago built a ſummer houſe. All the ſhips paſſing and repaſſing from the harbour of Stockholm come ſo near to this promontory, if I may call it by this name, as almoſt to touch it: and a perſon may ſpeak with the crew or paſſengers from the windows of that lodge, without raiſing his voice above the uſual pitch. When in the lodge, you fancy yourſelf on board of a ſhip, not on *terra firma*. In this there is a ſingularity and novelty, which gives an incitement to the mind, and gratifies the imagination, in rough weather, by a momentary apprehenſion of danger, ſoon changed into joy by the recollection that there exiſts not the leaſt ground for alarm. Some of the Roman emperors, if I recollect juſtly,

juſtly, were fond of ſtretching out piers and building houſes on a foundation raiſed in the ſea: whims of this kind are to be met with in every age and in every country. The king, of whoſe domains the park forms a part, has allotted portions of it to ſeveral noblemen, with a view of engaging them to build houſes there. The Spaniſh ambaſſador, for the improvement of his fanciful manſion, has, at a very conſiderable expence, carried the foundation of it farther into the ſea; and thus created the moſt delightful ſummer reſidence that can be imagined.

On the twenty-fourth of June, or Midſummer-day, it is the cuſtom to place ſhrubs and flowers at the doors of great houſes, as they do in France on the firſt of May, and according to what I have heard alſo in England. On that day the king and royal family come to the park, where they take up their abode in tents for the remainder of the month, that is, for the ſpace of nearly a week. A camp is formed of the garriſon of Stockholm, compoſed of two regiments of foot-guards, ſome companies of horſe-guards, and a corps of artillery. Along the lines of the camp they raiſe poles or poſts, adorned with branches of cyphers, and ſometimes ſcutcheons with mottos or devices. At the foot of the poſts are placed barrels of beer on wooden frames: about ſix or ſeven o'clock in the afternoon, on a particular ſignal, the barrels are opened; when each ſoldier is preſented with a pipe, a loaf of bread, two herrings, and ſome money. All this is done at the expence of the officers. In the mean time the military muſic plays, and the ſoldiers begin to drink and to dance. Upon each of the

barrels

barrels ſits a ſoldier, in the form of a Bacchus, or ſome other figure, more or leſs ridiculous. Thoſe that are dreſſed up in this manner firſt take the liquor and propoſe the toaſts, which are generally numerous, and conſtantly accompanied with the cry of *vivat*, anſwering to the Engliſh huzza. When any of the royal family, or a general officer, chance to paſs by, their healths are drank, and always with the ſame accompaniment of *vivat*. A kind of maſquerade enſues for a ſhort time, during which the ſoldiers amuſe the people, that flock round them in the lines of the camp, with ſongs, and indulge themſelves in various freaks and acts of merriment. On the beating of the retreat, every thing is again ſubmitted to the reign of order. Such feſtivals, without diminiſhing reſpect, certainly tend to excite in the ſoldiery and people an intereſt and attachment to the royal family.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER IV.

The Months of May and June, September and October, particularly diſagreeable, on Account of the Weather—Precautions againſt the Severities of Winter, Stoves, and Warm Clothing—Amuſements of the Capital in Winter—Plays, Operas, Concerts, Balls and Aſſemblies—An Account of the Swediſh Ladies, their Beauty, Accompliſhments and Manners—Women of another Deſcription—Character of a Swediſh Petit Maître—Spirit of Society; Muſic; Dinner-parties—Formality and Reſtraint of Swediſh Manners—Etiquette of the Court—Coſtume of Dreſs—Private Suppers given by the King and Royal Family—Intercourſe between the Court and the People, and their mutual Relations of Condeſcenſion and Reſpect—Great Aſſemblies at the Exchange, which are honoured by the Preſence of the Royal Family—Places of public Reſort, and their Expences—A Club called the Society.

WHEN the cold of winter drives the people of fortune into the capital, then begin at Stockholm plays, operas, balls, and great dinners, which during the ſummer months had been ſuſpended. Some months of the year are in Sweden extremely diſagreeable: September and October, when the rains ſet in; and May and June, when the thaw commences. At theſe two

ſeaſons travelling becomes almoſt impoſſible, and the capital as well as other towns, are ſo clogged and blocked up with mud and dirt, that you can ſcarcely move from one place to another. It is for this reaſon that the Swedes ſo generally wear outer ſhoes, called *galoches*, which are very uſeful and neceſſary for the preſervation of health, by keeping the feet from wet. At this ſeaſon a carriage of one's own becomes indiſpenſably neceſſary; for the hackney coaches of Stockholm are ſo filthy as not to be endured by any lady, or almoſt any gentleman.

It is not unnatural to ſuppoſe, that in the midſt of a Swediſh winter an Italian would run a riſk of periſhing through cold; but this is by no means the caſe. I was at Stockholm all the winter of 1799, when the cold was at or below twenty-five degrees of the thermometer of Celſius; and I can declare with perfect truth, that I ſuffered much leſs from the ſeverity of the weather than I have ſometimes done in Italy. If the cold in thoſe climates be great, the means of warding off its effects are proportionably great. The ſtoves in Sweden are the moſt ingeniouſly contrived for heating a chamber, and keeping it warm with a very ſmall quantity of fuel, of any in Europe. They are rather dangerous, it is true, if entruſted to ſtrangers, who do not know how to manage them, and who, by ſhutting up the vent at an improper time, may occaſion too great an expenditure of vital air. But the Swedes know ſo exactly the moment when it is fit to cloſe the air-hole, that there is ſcarcely an inſtance of any accident happening from the uſe of ſtoves in Sweden. They are in general

general ſo conſtructed, as to correſpond in their appearance with the furniture and ſtyle of the apartment in which they are placed. A great number of pipes proceed from the ſtove, which do not merely ſerve to conduct the ſmoke, but their chief uſe is to circulate the heated air that is combined with the ſmoke throughout the apartment. It is true that, in order to reſiſt the power of winter at Stockholm, you muſt, when you go out, carry about with you a whole wardrobe of cloaths; this inconvenience, however, is little thought of, when cuſtom has rendered it familiar. I have often been greatly diverted at ſeeing a Swede, before he came into a room, diveſting himſelf of his pellice, great coat, and upper ſhoes, and leaving them in the anti-chamber. The veſtments or *exuviæ* of ten perſons are ſufficient to load a large table. I knew a gentleman, who diſliked pellices, and ſubſtituted common great coats, of which he wore two at a time. Theſe, with two pair of gloves, his galoches, and his ſtick, make altogether ten different articles for the anti-chamber, viz. two great coats, two galoches, four gloves, one ſtick, and one hat. A good memory is requiſite not to forget any of thoſe articles on taking your leave. When a gentleman has occaſion in winter to go any where on foot, or to walk ever ſo ſhort a diſtance from his carriage, he wears great jack-boots, lined with fur or flannel, and under them ſhoes and white ſtockings; the boots he pulls off in the anti-chamber. With ſuch boots and a good pellice, a man may ſet the utmoſt ſeverity of cold at defiance.

Of the winter amuſements of Stockholm, I do not feel any

great inclination to be particular; nor do I apprehend that information of this kind is very generally intereſting. Theatrical entertainments, which among nations that have arrived at a high degree of civilization and refinement, are conſidered as a great ſource of pleaſure, are not ſo much ſought after by the inhabitants of Sweden. Guſtavus III. was the firſt king who wiſhed to excite a taſte for the theatre; in his reign, therefore, the ſtage met with great encouragement, and roſe high in reputation. The opera at Stockholm was thought little inferior to that at Paris. Beſides ſome very good ſingers, ſeveral excellent ballet-dancers were engaged; but ſince that king's death it has greatly fallen off, and is now very little attended to. The Swedes have never at any period diſcovered an original genius for muſic. All the operas hitherto performed in Sweden are either tranſlations from French or Italian pieces, or the works of ſome foreign maſter. As to muſical compoſitions, not a ſingle piece has been produced ſince the departure of Vogler, that comes up even to mediocrity. If indeed the mere application of mechanical rules, without any knowledge of declamation or ſenſibility of ſoul, were ſufficient to conſtitute a compoſer in muſic, we might confer that appellation on Mr. Hofner, and with the ſame juſtice we might call Mr. Kaiſtner a ſinger, if voice alone gave a claim to that appellation. Or, if it were poſſible for any one to excel in vocal performance without voice, modulation, or method, we might rank Madame Mello, Mademoiſelles Stading and Myaberg, Mr. Stenborg and others, in the number of virtuoſi. The dramatic repreſentation

ſentation that is moſt reliſhed, and which to thoſe who know the Swediſh language is certainly the moſt intereſting, is the little pieces acted by young perſons who are training up for the opera. Among theſe there are now and then ſome who give true indications of genius in their attempts. Thoſe little operas, as well as plays, are exhibited in the old theatre. Beſides the royal theatres there is that of Mr. Stenborg, where the comic operas are given. It is but little frequented by people of rank, and is in every reſpect much inferior to the other houſes.

I was told an anecdote of a celebrated actreſs at one of the royal theatres in the reign of Guſtavus III. which ſerves in ſome meaſure to pourtray that monarch, and at the ſame time to paint the airs in which the vain and conceited race of players were led to indulge themſelves by the condeſcenſion of the king. The firſt actreſs in the national theatre was a Daniſh woman of the name of Walters, who was the daughter of a common ſailor, but had received a good education at Copenhagen for the ſtage. Being handſome, as well as diſtinguiſhed in her profeſſion, ſhe had many admirers, whom it was her delight to torment by every ſpecies of caprice. Her inſolence became ſo great through habitual indulgence, that ſhe did not heſitate to diſplay it even towards the king himſelf. Conſidering her ſalary as inadequate to her merit, ſhe petitioned for an augmentation of her allowance, and one day perſonally applied to the king in a tone very poſitive and peremptory. His majeſty deſired her to be content with the preſent payments, and told her, in a very decided manner, that ſhe muſt not expect her

her ſalary to be ever encreaſed. "Very well," ſaid the lady, "then I demand my diſmiſſion." "You ſhall neither be diſ-"miſſed, nor better paid." "O! then I ſhall make my eſcape—"fly from the country, and never ſhew my face in it again." "You may try, but you will probably not find it very eaſy to get out of the kingdom, if I forbid it." A ſhort time after, notwithſtanding the vigilance with which ſhe was watched by order of the court, ſhe ſucceeded in her plan, and at the laſt poſt-houſe wrote in the day-book the following lines to the king: "Sire, it "is much eaſier to eſcape from your kingdom than you ſuppoſe." She deſired that this day-book might be ſhewn to his majeſty; and as a curioſity it was ſent to him. She then went to Copenhagen, where being known and received with great applauſe, ſhe attached herſelf to that ſtage. The king of Sweden, ſome time after, made new propoſals to her, which ſhe at firſt treated with great diſdain, but at length having obtained the ſum ſhe demanded, ſhe returned in triumph to Stockholm.

The concerts and balls which are given in the winter ſeaſon are thoſe at the Exchange, Vauxhall, and ſome particular ſocieties and private houſes. As to the concerts at the Hall of the Knights, they are ſcarce worth mentioning, becauſe they are in general made up of the ſame ſingers and the ſame band as the former. The foreign virtuoſi, who paſſing through this city go to hear them, are always diſappointed, and almoſt in every reſpect diſſatisfied. One of the principal public amuſements in winter are the balls at the Exchange. To the lovers of dancing theſe are a very great reſource.

reſource. In the centre of the building is a large ball-room, and on either ſide apartments for card-players. Theſe balls are frequented only by people of faſhion; but thoſe at Vauxhall are open to every body, and in general abound with bad company. The aſſemblies at the Exchange afford a very pleaſing ſight. There, in one evening you may ſee all the beauties of the capital collected together.

The ladies of Sweden are, generally ſpeaking, very handſome. Their countenances bear the characteriſtic of northern phyſiognomy, which is an expreſſion of the moſt perfect tranquillity and compoſure of mind, indicating nothing of that paſſion and fire which, to every diſcerning obſerver, is viſible in the features of the French and Italian ladies. As there is but little gallantry or attention ſhewn them by the men, and as they paſs a great part of their time either alone or amongſt themſelves, their converſation, though they are well educated, poſſeſſes but a ſmall ſhare either of variety or intereſt; and of that happy art of ſupporting converſation with vivacity, which ſo eminently diſtinguiſhes our Italian ladies, they are wholly deſtitute. The principal object that employs their time and attention is dreſs; and this anxiety is rather the effect of an ambition to outſhine their rivals in elegance and ſplendour, than the reſult of an eagerneſs to pleaſe the men and make conqueſts. They are, however, not free from the imputation of coquetry, becauſe they are certainly fond of admiration and praiſe: they would like to ſee every man at their feet, and would wiſh to be called the belles of the North: but their predominant

paſſion

paſſion is a deſire of public notice and diſtinction. There is not an individual for whom they feel, in their heart, ſuch ſtrong and violent ſentiments of friendſhip, tenderneſs, and love, as are found in thoſe who live in warmer climates.

The ſame conſtitution which produces diſtance and reſerve in one claſs of women, is the cauſe of exceſſive licentiouſneſs in the inferior orders. The prodigality of their kindneſs is in proportion to the coldneſs of their temperament. They ſeem to think they can never give enough, becauſe they feel little even in beſtowing the greateſt favours. There are not in Stockholm, as in other places, any women of the town: inſtead of theſe—individuals have miſtreſſes, who maintain a rank in ſociety much above their condition in life. They are pretty much in the ſtyle of ſome diſtinguiſhed individuals of that deſcription in England. They require to be courted in a formal manner; nor are their good graces, ſuch as they are, to be obtained by any one without ſome previous introduction; a cuſtom which I am far from diſcommending, but which, on the contrary, I think is entitled to ſome credit, even though they are not contented with one lover at a time. Perhaps they might be ſo ſatisfied, and even inclined to exchange their condition with the more uniform ſtate of concubines, if they could meet with admirers ſufficiently affluent and generous to enable them to confine their acquaintance to one perſon. But the honorary premium uſually given them is very ſmall, and they muſt have at leaſt ſeven or eight lovers to ſupport the ſtyle of dreſs they aſpire to, which is the only object of their care

day

day and night. They exact from their friends and favourites a degree of attention and reſpect even in public, that appears extraordinary to a foreigner. They would immediately diſmiſs a lover that would heſitate to bow to them in public places, or even to kiſs their hands, as is the cuſtom in Sweden for gentlemen to perform, in token of reſpect to ladies of rank and character. I have often ſeen officers of diſtinction ſubmitting to theſe acts of humiliation toward women of the looſeſt conduct, and ſcarcely worthy to belong to the Balladiere caſte:* for the ſame ladies, who are thus courted by their ſeveral lovers, and require ſo much ceremony and attention in day-light, will ſometimes parade the ſtreets when it is dark, and expoſe themſelves to any adventure that may enable them to gain money. From the facility of keeping miſtreſſes by a ſpecies of partnerſhip, it happens that the men in Sweden, eſpecially in the capital, feel no jealouſy; they "enjoy love," as Helvetius expreſſes it, "but do not ſigh."

The Swedes, like the Engliſh, are taken up with their buſineſs in the day time, and ſpend their evenings at cards, or ſometimes, though very rarely, in the company of the ladies. A Swediſh *petit maître* is an animal that holds a middle ſtation between beings of that kind in Germany and thoſe in France. He is a fool, as in all countries. He ſpends the whole day in changing his clothes, wears large whiſkers reaching down the length of his

* *Balladieres* are dancing girls in India, whoſe favours are to be purchaſed with money, but who are not on that account held as objects of ſcorn or reproach, becauſe it belongs to their caſte to be thus unfortunately circumſtanced.

chin, and paints his face. If, added to theſe decorations, he can but ſcrape a little on the fiddle, he is the darling of all the ladies who play, in their feeble way, on the harpſichord. A taſte for muſic in Swediſh ſocieties, is by no means the predominant paſſion. It is as yet ſo little formed, and the judgment of the audience ſo wavering and uncertain, that, after hearing any thing played, they will conſider with themſelves, what opinion it may be proper to give; and watch the countenance of any foreigner that may happen to be preſent in order to regulate their ſentiments, and decide concerning their own impreſſions. Taſte is the reſult of a well conſtructed and well informed mind, and of a ſenſibility of diſpoſition. Until the Swediſh ladies ſhall change their minds and hearts, they will always ſing and play more for the purpoſe of ſurprizing by the eaſe of their execution, than for that of giving delight by their expreſſion. It is impoſſible that they ſhould communicate to others what they do not feel themſelves. However, for their conſolation it may be ſaid, that in France, Germany, England, and in all countries, there are muſicians of the ſame inefficient claſs.

The want of muſic in the polite circles, or any thing approaching to that ſcience, is not, I am ſorry to ſay, compenſated by the attractions and charms of converſation. You feel the want of many things in Sweden, which in ſome other countries conſtitute a fund of ſocial pleaſure and entertainment. There is, for inſtance, nothing to be met with that reſembles thoſe friendly dinners, where a ſmall number of ſelect friends meet, not for the purpoſe

purpoſe of indulging in epicurean extravagance, but from the ſole motive of enjoying one another's company. The Swediſh dinner parties are expenſive arrangements of ſhew and formality. It will often happen that out of forty or fifty people, who appear in conſequence of an invitation ſent with all poſſible ceremony, and perhaps a week or a fortnight before the appointed day, ſcarcely three or four know one another ſufficiently to make the meeting agreeable. A foreigner may ſtill fare worſe, and have the misfortune of being ſeated near a perſon totally unacquainted with any language but his own. Before the company ſit down to dinner, they firſt pay their reſpects to a ſide table, laden with bread, butter, cheeſe, pickled ſalmon, and *liqueur*, or brandy; and by the taſting of theſe previous to their repaſt, endeavour to give an edge to their appetite, and to ſtimulate the ſtomach to perform its office. After this prelude, the gueſts arrange themſelves about the dinner table, where every one finds at his place three kinds of bread, flat and coarſe rye bread, white bread, and brown bread. The firſt ſort of bread is what the peaſants eat; it is criſp and dry: the ſecond ſort is common bread; but the brown, laſt mentioned, has a ſweet taſte, being made with the water with which the veſſels in the ſugar-houſes are waſhed, and is the naſtieſt thing poſſible. All the diſhes are at once put upon the table, but no one is allowed to aſk for what he likes beſt, the diſhes being handed round in regular ſucceſſion; and an Engliſhman has often occaſion for all his patience to wait till the one is put in motion on which he has fixed his choice. The Swedes are more know-

ing in this reſpect, and, like the French, eat of every thing that comes before them: and although the different diſhes do not ſeem to harmonize together, yet ſuch is the force of habit, that the guests apparently find no inconvenience from the moſt oppoſite mixtures. Anchovies, herrings, onions, eggs, paſtry, often meet together on the ſame plate, and are ſwallowed promiſcuouſly. The ſweet is aſſociated with the ſour, muſtard with ſugar, confectionaries with ſalt meat or ſalt fiſh; in ſhort, eatables are intermingled with a poetical licence, that ſets the precept of Horace at defiance—

Sed non ut placidis coeant immitia.

An Italian is not very much at a loſs at theſe feaſts; but an Engliſhman finds himſelf quite uncomfortable and out of his element: he ſees no wine drank either with the ladies or the gentlemen during dinner; but muſt take it himſelf in a ſolitary manner: he is often obliged to wait for hours before he can help himſelf to what he prefers to eat, and when the meat arrives, he generally thinks it not dreſſed plain enough, but diſagreeable from the quantity of ſpices with which it is ſeaſoned. After dinner the ladies do not leave him to his bottle; he is expected to adjourn immediately with them to the drawing-room, where the company, after thanking the maſter and miſtreſs of the houſe with a polite or rather ceremonious bow for their good cheer, are regaled with tea and coffee. I have not entered into a circumſtantial deſcription of theſe long dinners, but only given the general outline, that I might not inflict upon my readers that *ennui*, which I confeſs I have myſelf ſometimes

ſometimes experienced when I was among the number of the gueſts. In the interval between dinner and ſupper, which however, from the many hours that are thought neceſſary for the acts of eating and drinking, is not long, there is no amuſement whatever but playing at cards. If you cannot join in this rational recreation, you are abandoned to your fate, and may ſit in ſome corner of the room, indulging in meditation on whatever ſubject you pleaſe.

I have already noticed the extreme paſſion of the Swedes for cards; an amuſement too faſcinating in all countries, but which in Sweden, eſpecially among the higher orders, ſeems to abſorb every power and faculty of the ſoul. The following anecdote may ſerve to illuſtrate it in a ſtriking manner:—A nobleman of great rank having waited longer than uſual for his dinner, and ſeeing that no preparation was made for it, went down to call his ſervants to an account, and to examine into the reaſon of the delay. He found his houſehold, in imitation of their ſuperiors, deeply engaged at cards. They excuſed themſelves to their maſter by telling him that they were now at the moſt intereſting point of the game; and the butler, who had the greateſt ſtake, took the liberty of explaining the caſe to his excellency, who could not in conſcience but approve his reaſons. However, being unwilling to wait for his dinner till the game was decided, he ſent the butler to lay the cloth, while he himſelf ſat down with the other ſervants, and managed the intereſt of that individual in his abſence.

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The great formality and reſtraint that prevails throughout all the polite circles of Sweden, and which are not baniſhed even by the ſuperabundant luxury of a northern feaſt, and the juſtice which all are inclined to do to it, may without doubt be traced to the court of Stockholm, the moſt formal I believe in Europe; nay, I had nearly ſaid the world: but there is undoubtedly ſtill more of rigid etiquette at the court of Pekin. The reaſon why the court of Stockholm has happened, ſhall I ſay, to intrench itſelf in ſo many forms and ceremonies above all other courts, I have not time to enquire; though the reſearch might be curious, and perhaps capable of being illuſtrated in a ſatisfactory manner, from the hiſtory of the Swediſh government. Thus much we can ſay, that Guſtavus III, who had a very exalted notion of royal dignity and pre-eminence, added greatly to the ſtrictneſs of etiquette, though it had already attained to a very conſiderable height. As I have given an account of the dinner-parties in private life, I ſhall attempt to ſhew the manners of the court, and ſpeak of the entertainments of the royal table, which will furniſh the reader with tolerably adequate ideas of the forms that may be obſerved on other ſimilar occaſions. A drawing-room terminates commonly in a public ſupper for the royal family, who ſit alone at table, all the nobility and officers of the kingdom ſtanding round as mere ſpectators. The ladies of the ſenators, and others of equal rank, have the privilege of being ſeated on *tabourets*, placed in ſemicircles at a diſtance from the table, in front of the king and queen. The houſhold officers of the diffe-

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rent branches of the royal family ſtand behind the chair of the perſonage to whom they belong: the ſenators at his Majeſty's left hand, and the ambaſſadors with other foreigners of diſtinction at his right. The king ſpeaks to every one according to their rank, the degree of favour they poſſeſs with him, or other circumſtances. The diſhes are ſerved, and the plates preſented to the royal family by an officer called gentleman of the court. The marſhal ſtands directly oppoſite the king during the whole of the entertainment, and the ſteward of his Majeſty's houſhold a little to the right behind him. Though the preſence of theſe officers be wholly uſeleſs, it is thought neceſſary to complete the group. When the king has dined, he makes a ſign to the queen, and to the reſt of the family, and all having anſwered with a bow, he riſes from the table, takes a moſt gracious leave and withdraws to his own apartments, followed by the officers of the court. The reſt of the royal family do the ſame; no one preſumes to retire before they have quitted the room. An inſtance of the exact formality of the court of Sweden was experienced by the Prince Biſhop of Holſtein, when he came to Stockholm on a viſit to the royal family, to whom he is related. Before he could appear in public, he was obliged firſt to wait in form upon the prime miniſter, Prince Ulric Scheeffer, who was to preſent him to the king as ſoon as he had received his majeſty's orders to that purpoſe. By this miniſter the prince biſhop was, after ſome previous circumſtances, introduced to the court, and met with a reception as diſtant and ceremonious as if he had

had been ſome foreign ambaſſador. At the public ſupper he muſt have ſtood with other diſtinguiſhed foreigners among the ſpectators, if a ſudden and well-timed indiſpoſition had not furniſhed an excuſe for his abſence. The queen dowager, however, ſet aſide theſe troubleſome niceties, which fettered the reſt of the royal family, and treated the biſhop in the moſt cordial manner, as the nephew of her late conſort, and with thoſe marks of eſteem which were due to his perſonal character. In order to give him what ſhe conſidered as his right, without infringing that of any one elſe, ſhe ordered the places at her table to be diſtributed by ſealed tickets. Every one that was invited drew ſuch a ticket, and placed himſelf at table according to the number written upon it; but ſhe had privately given directions that the number of the place between her and the princeſs ſhould be reſerved for her kinſman, and put into the hat in which the tickets were collected, after all the others were drawn out.

There is one advantage attending the Swediſh court: the dreſs is not half ſo expenſive as that required at other courts of Europe. With three or four ſuits of clothes you may appear at every drawing-room for as many years. The colour and form being once fixed, there is no admiſſion of variation. The dreſs of the ladies differs but little from the preſent faſhion in England, except that the ſleeves of their gowns are cut in the Spaniſh manner. The colour muſt be always black, except on gala days, when it is white. The head-dreſs, ribbands, and the ſmaller articles of the toilette, are left to the fancy of the ſex. The dreſs

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of the men is a compound of the Spaniſh faſhion, and the national coſtume, which is followed by the peaſantry in the ſouthern parts of Sweden. Their ſmall-clothes are cut in the common manner, as in other countries, but made of the ſame colour with the coat and cloak. The coat fits cloſe to the body and is very ſhort, buttoned quite down, and beſides this, faſtened about the waiſt with a ſaſh. The cloak reaches below the knee and hangs looſely on the back, though it be commonly wide enough to wrap the body up in it, as in a Spaniſh cloak. The uſual colour is black. The cloak is lined with ſcarlet coloured ſilk, made of the ſame ſtuff with the ſaſh and waiſtcoat; and with the ſame the ſeams of the coat are alſo covered. There is a particular ornament belonging to the coat upon the ſhoulder, which conſiſts of narrow pieces of the ſame ſilk, faſtened upon the ſeam that joins the ſleeve to the body of the coat. This addition makes the ſhoulders look broader, and often improves the appearance. I hope I ſhall not be blamed for introducing theſe rearks, as being only worthy the attention of taylors and milliners: painters, and thoſe who are curious in whatever relates to that charming art, are alſo intereſted in them; for the dreſs which I have been deſcribing, is the coſtume adopted by the Flemiſh ſchool, and for this reaſon deſerves to be mentioned. The Swediſh government has thought proper to fix the manner of dreſſing, which in other countries, under the influence of commercial ſpeculation, national volatility, and the caprice of individuals, has experienced ſo many changes, that it has confounded variety itſelf.

I will farther obſerve, before I quit this ſubject, that this mode of dreſs gives to the Swediſh court an air of magnificence and grandeur, more ſtriking than all the party-coloured glare that you meet with in other places; in the ſame manner as the imagination derives more pleaſure from contemplating a military corps in the plaineſt uniform, than from the ſight of an equal aſſemblage of men apparelled in richer clothes of different hues and faſhions. This court-dreſs, which may be conſidered as the national uniform, was finally eſtabliſhed by Guſtavus III.

At the ſame time that the moſt rigid obſervance of particular forms is exacted by the Court of Stockholm, within what we may call its own precincts, there is no country where the king and princes mix more familiarly with the people than in Sweden. This makes the contraſt the more ſtriking; for it is a very different thing to be admitted to the private ſuppers given by the king, and the other branches of the royal family, and to ſtand as a ſpectator at the public exhibition at court. The king gives ſuppers in a domeſtic and friendly way, twice, and ſometimes three times a week. On opera days theſe parties are at the royal apartments in the opera-houſe: on other days, at an elegant palace called Haga, or the Hague, not quite a Swediſh mile diſtant from the north-gate of Stockholm, ſituated on the border of a lake in the midſt of a wood: this was the favourite reſidence of his late majeſty. It was in a ſmall pavilion, in a corner of the gardens of Haga, where the king is ſaid to have formed the plan of the revolution in 1772; and that ſpot is ſtill much viſited by the curious, as being

being the birth-place of a great enterprize. Foreigners who have been invited once to the king's private ſuppers are, for the moſt part, honoured with a general invitation. The king uſually ſeats himſelf between two ladies at a corner of the table. At Haga no ſwords are worn, though the gentlemen are otherwiſe dreſſed in their court uniform, which has been mentioned before. In ſummer, when the king reſided for ſome time at Haga, ſtrangers were alſo occaſionally aſked to dinner; and it was underſtood that they were to paſs the day, and not to leave the royal company till after ſupper. In order to be invited to the king's table, a Swediſh gentleman muſt at leaſt have the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Younger officers are ſometimes admitted, but this is a mark of very particular favour. At thoſe private ſuppers no formality is obſerved even towards the royal family. The queen and the princeſſes uſed to take their places about the middle of the table without any certain rule of diſtinction. The two princeſſes give, each of them, a ſupper once a week, to which ſtrangers once admitted have, as at his majeſty's, a general invitation. The pages who wait at table, at all theſe entertainments, and who, as a badge of their office, carry a napkin under their arm, are officers of the army: theſe only attend upon the royal family. The ſervants who wait on the reſt of the company are perſons of low extraction, that have neither the education nor rank of gentlemen. Guſtavus III. was wont to diſplay a great portion of hilarity, conviviality, wit and humour, at his private entertainments. He made it a point to obſerve, notice, and

ſay ſomething appropriate to every one preſent. The duke of Sudermania too was very attentive to the gueſts; but the preſent king, though polite and gracious, is more reſerved in his manners; and on the whole the court has exchanged its gaiety, magnificence, and pleaſure, for an air of retirement and inſipidity.

The intercourſe between the court and the inferior aſſemblies and circles, exhibits a ſingular mixture of feudal ſubmiſſion and veneration for the civ and military chief, and a reſpect for the perſonal rights of all claſſes and individuals in the nation; for although a conſiderable ſhare of modern ſervility has been introduced, yet there ſtill remains evident traces of that ſpirit of freedom and independence which diſtinguiſhed the antient inhabitants of the North. Theſe venerable relicks are not quite annihilated, by the extenſion of Aſiatic deſpotiſm, as in Ruſſia and China. A hardy boldneſs of character, created by the nature of the country they inhabit, gives to every individual a ſenſe of his own reſpectability and conſequence, which is collectively felt and aſſumed by whole bodies and communities. That great poet, ſcholar, and philoſopher, Milton, ſomewhere obſerves, that the Engliſh are free, not by virtue of their written laws or conventions, but becauſe they are by nature a free people. Laws, when they are not maintained and invigorated by the living principle of liberty, and a ſenſe of juſtice, ſoon degenerate into dead-letter: and, on the other hand, where that ſpirit is ſtrong and active, laws and cuſtoms are changed, qualified, and meliorated in favour of humanity. The moſt brilliant aſſembly in Stockholm next to the court in full gala,

gala, is that held once a fortnight in the upper-hall of the Exchange. It begins at ſix o'clock in the evening, and continues till ten or eleven: here you ſee collected all the rank, faſhion, and beauty that the capital can boaſt of. As ſoon as there is a ſufficient number of people aſſembled for country-dances the muſic begins. The hall is ſpacious enough to hold nine or ten different dancing parties. There are alſo two rooms for card-tables. About eight o'clock the royal family commonly make their appearance, but without occaſioning any interruption in the entertainment. The queen, with her attendants, is ſeated in one of the balconies. The king, princes of the blood, and princeſſes, walk about the room and converſe with the company. The king generally notices and ſpeaks to almoſt every perſon in the ſame manner as in the drawing-room. He does not even paſs over thoſe that have not been preſented at court, of which deſcription are many diſtinguiſhed families among the gentry, clergy, and the mercantile claſs, and ſhews them great affability; for though they are not of noble birth, yet their education and reſpectability in ſociety is deemed a ſufficient title to theſe marks of attention. They bring their wives and daughters to theſe aſſemblies, and never experience, as they might perhaps in other countries, the mortification of ſeeing them humbled or neglected. The Exchange aſſembly was at firſt open to all company of reſpectable appearance, without any other condition than that of paying for their entrance; but an incident happened which occaſioned a partial alteration in this reſpect. This occurrence, as it ſerves to illuſ-

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trate our preſent ſubject, and ſets that mixture of courtly formality and royal condeſcenſion, of which we have been ſpeaking in a ſtrong light, may perhaps not be thought unworthy of being mentioned in this place. In the reign of the late king, the counteſs of Kaggyneck, wife of the Auſtrian ambaſſador at Stockholm, being entitled by her birth to be ſaluted on the cheek by the empreſs of Germany, and the princeſſes of the Imperial family, would not ſubmit to any other ceremonial at the court of Stockholm. Inſtead of this, to kiſs the hand of the queen and princeſſes of Sweden, ſhe held beneath her dignity: for this reaſon, till theſe important points ſhould be adjuſted, her preſentation at court was deferred. But the counteſs, who was young and ſprightly, thought that ſhe might at leaſt enjoy the amuſement of the aſſembly, eſpecially at a time when it was expected to be very much crowded, every one being deſirous of ſeeing the queen, who had but lately come abroad after the birth of the prince royal. She was introduced to the aſſembly by her huſband. That ſhe might have a better view of the room, ſhe was placed in one of the balconies; and whether from chance or deſign very near the one uſually occupied by the queen. The king had no ſooner entered the room, than he was ſtruck with the ſight of the Counteſs of Kaggyneck; and conſidered her appearance, and the place ſhe had choſen, as a ſort of defiance to the rules of the court. He therefore commanded Mr. Plommenvelt, who was maſter of the ceremonies, to tell Count Kaggyneck that it was not proper for his lady, in the preſent circumſtances, to be in the ſame room with the

the royal family. Mr. Plommenvelt, willing to ſoften the order as much as poſſible, went up to the count and told him in confidence, and as of his own accord, that it was not uſual for perſons of ſuch a rank to appear with the royal family before they had been duly preſented, and that therefore he took the liberty of adviſing him to conſider the propriety of withdrawing, that he might not run the riſk of giving offence to the king. But the count, perhaps from ſome private pique againſt Plommenvelt, anſwered him in a very peremptory and ſharp manner, that he was not willing to receive advice from him; and thus ſent him back to the king. The maſter of the ceremonies having failed in his well-meant intentions, now aſked his majeſty, whether it was his pleaſure that the counteſs ſhould leave the room? Being anſwered in the affirmative, he informed the count in plain terms of the king's orders, which were inſtantly obeyed. The ambaſſador reported the whole affair to his court, and the conſequence was, that for ſeveral years the emperor had no repreſentative at Stockholm. This mighty difference between their Imperial and Swediſh majeſties was afterwards accommodated when Guſtavus travelled in Italy. The Emperor Joſeph at Milan paid him a viſit early in the morning, and waited in the antichamber till the king was riſen. The firſt words of Joſeph, who had really a great deal of wit, though little wiſdom, as well as a natural ſprightlineſs and frankneſs of diſpoſition, were, "Well, you ſee how little I ſtand on ceremony." After this diſpute with the count and counteſs of Kaggyneck, the king of Sweden gave orders that, as the

the aſſembly at the Exchange was frequented by the royal family, people above a certain rank ſhould not appear there without having been previouſly preſented at court.

Though Stockholm be at preſent on the whole not one of the leaſt expenſive towns in Europe, yet public entertainments are very cheap. The firſt places at the play-houſes are to be had for half-a-crown. Admiſſion to the grand aſſembly at the Exchange is at the ſame price, including tea and coffee, and other refreſhments. The entrance to the opera coſts about three ſhillings and ſixpence. But the moſt agreeable place for ſtrangers to reſort to, is the club called *the Society*, which has been before mentioned. It is open at all times, and is the beſt regulated of all the clubs I ever knew. The houſe is magnificent, and furniſhed with great taſte; neatneſs, elegance, and good order reign throughout the whole. At half after two o'clock you find an excellent dinner on the table; of which, however, none can partake except members of the club, and perſons introduced by members, ſo that you always meet with good company. Mr. Martin, a Frenchman, who keeps the houſe, has always the beſt cooks in his ſervice. There are few private families in Stockholm where you can dine better than you do at this club for half-a-crown: the wine is not included in this charge. The houſe contains a billiard-table, a great ball-room, a parlour where people meet for the purpoſe of converſation, a reading-room, where you have journals and newſpapers of all countries and in all languages, a card-room, and a dining-room: all theſe apartments communicate with and form

a ſuit

a ſuit that extends over the whole front of the building. When the doors are open you overlook the whole at one view, which has a pleaſing effect. In this ſociety all the people of Stockholm are mixed; both the nobility, gentry, and men of buſineſs. Merchants are found at the ſame card and dinner-table with officers of the army and country gentlemen; and there prevails, upon the whole, a pretty tolerable air of equality. Many who are houſe-keepers, occaſionally come to the ſociety for the ſake of the company and the dinner, which are always excellent.

CHAPTER V.

Character of Guſtavus III. King of Sweden—Reflections on true Glory, and the Virtues of a Patriot King—Arts and Sciences under Guſtavus—Character of the Duke of Sudermania, and his Conduct during the Regency—Animal Magnetiſm encouraged at Stockholm—Character of the preſent King of Sweden—State of Religion; the Liberty of the Preſs; and State of the Arts and Sciences in this Reign.

THE great object of the late king of Sweden in all his actions was to make a noiſe in the world. From the diſplay of his magnificence, the ſhew of his abilities and talents, which he exhibited in many different ways, and from his ſpirit of enterprize, one would be tempted to imagine that there was ſcarcely any thing worth notice in Sweden that did not originate with him. He was ambitious that his reign ſhould be ſignalized as the æra of arts and ſciences in Sweden; as the age of Lewis XIV. was in France. Great and elevated minds are ſometimes ſeduced from the paths of true glory, which conſiſts in the exertion of power and wiſdom for the moſt benignant purpoſes, to the purſuits of mere perſonal ambition. The glory of Charles XII. of Sweden was ruin to his country: ſo is that of moſt heroic monarchs. It may be conſidered as particular

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and extraordinary good fortune when the courage and talents of warlike princes find an object worthy of their fire and genius. Such, happily, was the deſtiny of Guſtavus Vaſa and Guſtavus Adolphus, both juſtly denominated Great: ſuch was that of the Princes of Orange, whoſe noble career was concluded by William III. king of England. But perhaps had a cauſe truly glorious been wanting to thoſe princes, their natural love of pre-eminence and fame might have taken a leſs favourable direction. The wars of Charles XII. were originally juſt and honourable, but he carried them beyond the point where they ought to have ended; and from a frantic paſſion for military exploits, he uſed them for the purpoſe of gratifying his own inclination, and not as the means of repelling aggreſſion, and ſecuring his country againſt the injuſtice of its neighbours. How much more truly glorious would it have been if he had ſtopped in his career of victory, and given repoſe to his bleeding and exhauſted people! The war in which Guſtavus III. engaged with the Ruſſians, and in which he certainly diſplayed a magnanimity and perſonal intrepidity in no degree inferior to thoſe of his braveſt anceſtors, was provoked by the intrigues and the overbearing pretenſions of the northern autocraſy. But the experiment whether Guſtavus, had it been in his power, would not have preferred the gratification of his own ambition to the ſolid intereſts of his country, was never fairly tried. A peace between the Ruſſians and the Turks was unavoidably followed by an accommodation between the Ruſſians and the Swedes, by which the latter certainly obtained the greateſt ſhare

of glory. Had England continued in her views, the king of Sweden might have been tempted to proceed farther. The ruling paſſion, however, of Guſtavus, his ſecret preference of his own fame to the well-being of his kingdom, was ſeen even in the courſe of a few months after the pacification of Wenſla: for he then engaged in vigorous preparations for an invaſion of France, than which the march of Charles XII. towards Moſcow in order to dethrone the Czar, was not more romantic. There is not a doubt but Guſtavus III. would have diſplayed on the frontier of France all the courage and firmneſs of Charles XII. at Narva or at Bender: but how does ſuch proweſs, even when moſt ſucceſsful, fade and decay when compared with the well-directed and well-tempered military ſkill and bravery of a prince like Henry IV. of France, who neither continued the war againſt Auſtria longer than the ſecurity of his crown and kingdom required, nor formed any new deſigns until he was compelled to do ſo by the inſatiable ambition and reſtleſs intrigues of his powerful antagoniſts.* Perſonal courage, though reſpectable, is no uncommon quality. In the eye of ſound moral criticiſm this virtue then only receives a bright luſtre when it is employed in a juſt and honourable cauſe. This maxim indeed may be thought too obvious to be repeated; but common as it is in theory, it is by no means ſo generally adopted in practice as the good of mankind would require. It cannot

* At the time of his aſſaſſination he had prepared to take the field in perſon againſt the Auſtrians, in which his ultimate object, there is every reaſon to believe, was not only to ſecure the independency of France, but the rights of all other European powers.

therefore

therefore be amiſs to inculcate it whenever an opportunity occurs. Whether in the progreſs of civilization it will obtain greater influence over the human mind, and ſhew its bleſſed effects in the world to a greater degree than it hitherto has done, is an important and intereſting ſubject for ſpeculation. Unfortunately for Sweden it was not a Henry IV. but a Lewis XIV. that Guſtavus made the object of his emulation. Aſpiring with inceſſant ardour to an illuſtrious name among ſovereigns, he was wont among his courtiers to make not indirect compariſons between himſelf and that monarch. Like him he ſought to be ſurrounded with the ſplendour of literature and the arts, and ſtudied in all things to appear a great and munificent king. Like his maternal uncle, Frederic the Great of Pruſſia, he was ambitious of being an author as well as a warrior. Emulating the renown of Charles XII. he threatened like him to involve his country in ruin. To poets, muſicians, and painters, he extended a high degree of favour and protection. He inſtituted ſocieties, and patronized learning and ſcience: but all this did not flow from a pure deſire to promote theſe great intereſts of the human ſpecies. He made thoſe he protected the tools of his ambition and vanity. They were in fact little more than echoes of his wiſhes, and ſerved as means of operating on the public opinion, and prediſpoſing and preparing it for an acquieſcence in various ſchemes which he had formed for the enlargement of his own grandeur, and the gratification of his ruling paſſions. Not even the encouragement which he gave to the fine arts was founded on any thing elſe than political views and ſelfiſh motives.

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His object was to aſtoniſh the nation by ſhows and other novelties, to dazzle the people by the ſplendor of his magnificence, and to engage them in purſuits of pleaſure, that they might be diverted from reflections on their political ſubjection and degradation. He was willing to root out every ſentiment of honour, and to extinguiſh every ſpark of liberty, that he might bear ſway over a herd of ſlaves. When impartial hiſtory ſhall unfold the various artifices by which this prince, who was unhappily for his country, a man of unqueſtionable genius, attained to the accompliſhment of all his ends, we ſhall be ſatisfied that he was a greater enemy to the Swediſh nation than Charles XII.: for Charles left behind him, in the minds of the Swedes, a ſpirit of national pride as well as perſonal honour and ſelf-eſteem, and a ſatisfactory recollection of the noble exploits of their anceſtors. Though reduced by him to the loweſt ebb of fortune, they were animated by his name to a love of glory. They were proud of having had ſuch a king, and wept over his memory. That of Guſtavus III. is cheriſhed at this day by none but painters, muſicians, comedians, and particular favourites. As for the ſciences, Guſtavus III. was ſo far from affording them any ſubſtantial ſupport, that on the contrary, he treated them with neglect, if not contempt. The magnificent collection of natural hiſtory made by Linnæus, was permitted to be bought by an Engliſhman, and carried to England.* Many of the manuſcripts of the incomparable Bergmann, for want of encouragement in Sweden, were diſpoſed of and printed in Germany.

* It is in the poſſeſſion of James Edward Smith, M. D. who reſides at Norwich.

It would be no improper object for philoſophical inveſtigation, to trace the progreſs of ſcience under the reign of Guſtavus III, and to compare this with the advancement it experienced during the later periods of the ariſtocratical ſyſtem, or rather the ſyſtem of the limited monarchy. From ſuch an enquiry it would probably be made to appear, that neither the ſplendour of a throne, nor the protection of a prince are neceſſary, or even favourable to the promotion of ſcience. It would be ſeen that the moſt effectual patronage of learning is that which is derived from the public at large; and that the ſciences, like commerce, are always the worſe for the interference of government. They reſemble the ſenſitive plant, which ſhrinks from the touch of the pureſt and moſt delicate hand; but vegetates, flouriſhes, and perfectly unfolds itſelf when left alone. On entering ſuperficially upon a compariſon of the ſtate of the ſciences in the reign of Guſtavus III. and during the ariſtocracy, I do not find any naturaliſt that might be ranked with Linnæus, nor a mineralogiſt of ſuch diſtinguiſhed merit and reputation as Bergmann; nor a linguiſt and antiquary that could equal the celebrated Ihre; not a mathematician to cope with Klingenſtierna, the reputed inventor of achromatic teleſcopes; no chemiſt that could rival Wallerius; not a phyſician like Roſenſtein, nor ſuch a proficient in the oriental languages as Aurivelius. When we conſider what the Swediſh nobility were before the time of Guſtavus III. and what they have been ſince his reign, we perceive at once a ſtriking contraſt. Guſtavus, though certainly poſſeſſed of genius himſelf, had no body about him

him but inſipid, and even ignorant and weak men. The nobles are now no longer actuated by their former ſpirit of emulation, and a deſire to excel as leading men in the ſenate. Eloquence, with all that variety of knowledge and information which is neceſſary to the formation of a good orator, is no longer of any importance to them. Application to the ſtudy of general knowledge and the improvement of the mind, is ſuſpended by the conſtitution of 1772; and ſo long as that conſtitution laſts, it is probable that we ſhall not hear of any great characters among the nobles of Sweden. The ancient ſenate, it is true, was corrupt, venal, and ever ready to ſell itſelf to the higheſt bidder: but ſtill, even in that very diſpoſition to venality was contained an incentive to the acquirement of qualities and accompliſhments that might lead to diſtinction. France and Ruſſia purchaſed the men of abilities in the ſenate at no ſmall price; the others were overlooked and diſregarded.

Under the regency of the Duke of Sudermania, the views and ſyſtem, and in a word, the ſpirit of the Swediſh government underwent a complete revolution. Guſtavus was the ſworn enemy of the French revolution, and was on the point, as has been before obſerved, to join the arms of Sweden to thoſe of the general confederacy: and had he lived he would at leaſt have made a ſacrifice of ſome regiments, and added ſome millions of rix dollars to that debt with which he had already burthened the nation. The regent remained neutral, cultivated a connection with France, and ſtudied œconomy. The conſequence was, that the

diſcount

diſcount of the paper-money of Sweden at Hamburgh, Riga, and other places, fell from twenty-five to ten per cent. This neutrality was calculated to reſtore to the Swedes ſome portion of that national character which Guſtavus was at ſo great pains to deſtroy; and that brave and honeſt people were again allowed to cheriſh the idea, and make uſe of the word *liberty* without giving offence. The duke of Sudermania had the good ſenſe to form a juſt eſtimate of a nation which, in vindication of their liberty, had at different times revolted againſt tyrants; and whoſe conduct in public affairs had on the whole been ſuch as became an enlightened people. Men of letters and ſcience began to lift up their voice, and their voice was heard. More freedom was granted to the preſs; and though the reſtraints enforced by Guſtavus III. were formally aboliſhed, yet writers were not permitted to diſcuſs matters even of a political nature without fear, and to aſſert the truth without reſtriction. This alteration was very perceptible in the trade of bookſelling, which was greatly encouraged and augmented.

There is only one ſubject on which the Duke of Sudermania has been charged with weakneſs, namely, *Meſmeriſm*, or *animal magnetiſm*, the belief in which is thought by moſt men of learning and ſcience, to be no proof of either good ſenſe or an enlightened underſtanding. Several perſons of diſtinction at the court of Sweden paſſed ſome time at Paris, when the doctrines and extravagancies of Meſmer were in vogue, and liſtened to by every body. Thoſe that were initiated in the myſteries of Meſ-

mer were obliged to pay him a hundred louis d'ors for their admittance; and as ſelf-love is extremely unwilling ever to allow that it has been impoſed upon, they were inclined to give way to the illuſions, for which they had paid ſo conſiderable a ſum, and endeavoured not only to work themſelves into a belief that they had really made a valuable acquiſition of knowledge, but exerted themſelves alſo to perſuade others of the ſame. Hence the progreſs of that abſtruſe ſcience may be accounted for, which I have ſeen performed, and which was no where more ſucceſsful and rapid than at Stockholm. A certain officer of the Swediſh army contrived to attract the notice of the court inſomuch, that he was favoured in his promotion, by pretending to be particularly ſuſceptible of the effects of animal magnetiſm, and by counterfeiting ecſtacies and ſleep-walking. When he was under the hands of the magnetiſer, he would feign ſomnolency, then awake as from prophetic dreams, and foretel future events. He propheſied his own death, which was to take place in the firſt battle he ſhould be engaged in. The credulous people in whoſe preſence he uttered this prediction lamented his cruel fate. The courtiers made no oppoſition either to his military advancement or his progreſs in favour at court, from the ſoothing idea that he had but a ſhort time to live, and would not interfere with their intereſts. To thoſe whom he thought it worth his while to flatter, he predicted every thing that was good. He aſſured the prime miniſter, Count Sparre, that he ſhould aſcend to heaven like ELIJAH, without taſting death. And ſo ready, it is ſaid, was this good man to believe

lieve him, that he immediately ſettled his worldly concerns, and never went out any where in his carriage without firſt ſaying his prayers, and making other preparations, that he might be ready on a minute's warning to proceed on his celeſtial journey. I will not vouch for the truth of this report; but it is certain, that the extreme credulity of the court in this as well as other things, encouraged impoſtors to practiſe all poſſible tricks and artifices. A young officer, who had not any friends of rank or conſequence on whom he might depend for promotion, had recourſe to the following ſtratagem for intereſting the regent in his favour, and raiſing his own fortune. He went in the dead of the night to the royal palace of Drottningholm, and wounded himſelf rather ſeverely in the arm with a piſtol: immediately on the diſcharge of the piſtol he gave the cry of murder! and perſuaded every body that he had been ſet upon by two ruffians, who had miſtaken him for the Duke of Sudermania, whom they had intended to aſſaſſinate. The duke very much affected by this incident, and at the ſame time moved with compaſſion for the poor man, who he imagined had ſuffered in his ſtead, made him a preſent in money, and immediately gave him a commiſſion in his own regiment. The fraud being afterwards detected the impoſtor was hooted out of the army.

The preſent king of Sweden has adopted a mode of conduct and ſtyle of manners directly oppoſite to thoſe of his uncle, with whom he has never lived in harmony. During the whole of the

regency the young king kept himſelf in a ſtate of total inſignificance. He never of his own accord appeared before the people, nor did any thing without aſking leave of the duke: it ſeemed as if he conſidered himſelf as nobody during his minority, for the ſole purpoſe of making the regent feel the whole weight of his authority, when the period ſhould arrive of exerciſing it in its full extent. The leading features in this young prince's character, as I conceive, are an ambition of governing without miniſters, or any interference that might ſet bounds to his abſolute ſway, and a ſincere wiſh at the ſame time to do as much good as lies within the narrow ſphere of his powers and knowledge. Under the influence of two prieſts, and ſtrongly impreſſed with an abhorrence of what is called the new philoſophy, he has become a determined bigot, and hence is influenced by a ſuperſtition that throws every poſſible obſtacle in the way of progreſſive improvement. Thoſe two prieſts are Biſhop Fleddin and Biſhop M***. The firſt was the king's preceptor in religious inſtruction: he is a man of no learning, but of an aſpiring temper, and ready to make any ſacrifice to his private intereſt. The religion of Luther, under his auſpices, degenerates into the rites and ceremonies of popery. It is by his advice that the ſoldiers have received orders on Good-Friday to turn the muzzles of their fire-arms downwards, and to have their drums ſlackened and deadened, as at Rome and in other catholic countries. Biſhop M***, in his earlier years was a friend to democracy: he was firſt brought into notice by a treatiſe

treatiſe in favour of that form of government, entitled, *De Democratia Optimo Regimine.** He embraced the eccleſiaſtical profeſſion merely from motives of intereſt; but afterwards became a zealous ſtickler for the moſt abſurd tenets of the groſſeſt ſuperſtition, whether it be that he has in reality become a convert to what he at firſt merely belived *ex officio*; or, as ſome people are inclined to think, from hypocriſy. He has at once ſignalized his clerical fervor, and diſplayed his own character by a *Diſſertation on the Power and Influence of the Devil on the Human Body.* He *proves* in this book, by evidence amounting, as he ſays, to mathematical demonſtration, not only the exiſtence of the devil and his operations on the human mind and body, but has been ſo ſucceſsful in his enquiries into the ſubject, as to diſtinguiſh the different ſorts of devils, and to aſcertain the means proper for putting them to flight. He has diſcovered that the *diabolus crinitus*, or hairy devil, may be routed by a plant called *hypericum quadrangulare*, (quadrangular St. John's wort). There is another anecdote which may ſerve to throw ſome light upon the preſent ſpirit of religion in Sweden. As far down as the reign of the late king a ceremony prevailed, which was very much at variance with the advanced ſtate of knowledge, and with common ſenſe, namely, that of exorciſing and ſummoning the devil to depart from the body of an infant in the rite of baptiſm. For this ceremony, in the late king's reign, another was ſubſtituted leſs ſhocking to the underſtanding: but

* Democracy the beſt form of government.

but on the birth of the preſent king's ſon the old mode of exorciſm was revived; and the devil was expreſsly ordered to quit the body of the preſent prince royal.

The liberty of the preſs in Sweden at the preſent moment is entirely ſubdued; the reign of ignorance and bigotry gains ground, and will perhaps ſoon be as unlimited, and produce the ſame diſmal gloom as now prevails in Spain and Portugal. Guſtavus III. while he publicly encouraged the freedom of the preſs, privately bound it in fetters. He liked to be thought a liberal and philoſophic prince; and he did not apparently reſtrain authors from writing whatever they pleaſed: but ſtill they were expoſed to many unknown conſequences, if they happened to publiſh any thing offenſive to the court. At preſent a cenſorial commiſſion is eſtabliſhed, which mutilates works, or ſuppreſſes them altogether at pleaſure: and what is ſtill worſe, and unheard of in any other country, when the cenſors have paſſed a work, its publication may be prohibited by the king afterwards. An inſtance of this kind happened during my ſtay at Stockholm, in the caſe of a work, entitled, "Thoughts on the Reſtoration of the Old Monarchy "in France." After this ſtatement of facts, it will not be difficult to conjecture the ſituation of the ſciences and of philoſophy in a country where ſuch meaſures are purſued by the government. The contraſt in theſe reſpects between Sweden and Denmark, is ſtrongly marked by the number of journals and other periodical publications iſſuing from the preſs annually in the two countries. In Denmark I reckoned up more than twenty; but as for the neighbouring

neighbouring kingdom, I could never find in the capital, nor in all Sweden, more than two. The periodical publications of Denmark are fraught with the moſt liberal opinions on every ſubject. In Sweden publications are ſtopped without the allegation of any reaſon whatever, or on pretences the moſt frivolous. The Journal, entitled, "Memoirs of the Society for the Improvement of Know-"ledge moſt uſeful to the generality of Citizens," digeſted and publiſhed by a ſociety of philanthropic individuals, which was held in great eſtimation by the public, was put an end to by the king: and neither the members of the ſociety, nor the editors of the journal were ever able to obtain from his majeſty any account of the cauſe of its ſuppreſſion. Another journal, called *Extrapoſten*, (nearly anſwering to the word Courier) was filenced on account of a dialogue which it contained between Luther and the Devil, in which the latter appeared to be too good a logician. In 1798 a royal edict was iſſued, ordering that no periodical writings whatever ſhould be publiſhed without expreſs permiſſion from the king. The only two works of the kind that at preſent come out in Sweden are—Journal for Swediſh Literature, and a Collection of miſcellaneous ſubjects for reading.* The firſt is only a catalogue of Swediſh books, with critical remarks. The editor is Mr. Silverſtolpe, a man of conſiderable learning, and of a very ſatirical turn. The ſecond is a work written in a fine ſtyle and manner, and contains many beautiful pieces in literature

* Laſning i blandade amnen.

rature and belles-lettres, as well as philoſophical eſſays, very free and bold for the preſent times and circumſtances. In this journal the principal writers are, Mr. Herſparre, Mr. Leopold, and Mr. Lehnberg. It would have been ſuppreſſed on more than one occaſion, if thoſe three gentlemen had not poſſeſſed conſiderable credit at court, as well as influence with the cenſors.

CHPATER

CHAPTER VI.

Remarks on Academies or learned Societies—Thoſe eſtabliſhed by Lewis XIV. in France—Effect of Opinions and theoretical Principles upon the Fate of Nations—How far the public Opinion may be directed or influenced by learned Societies—More of the Characteriſtics of theſe Societies diſplayed—Academy of Belles-Lettres at Stockholm—Members of this Academy—The Swediſh *Academy, or* the Eighteen; *its Proceedings, Prizes, &c.—Members of the Swediſh Academy—Account of ſome Swediſh Poets, among whom is mentioned Mr. Torild, an Admirer and Imitator of Oſſian.*

THE faſhion of patronizing literature and ſcience, in the beginning of the ſixteenth century, when a matrimonial alliance exiſted between the houſe of Medici and that of Bourbon, was imported into France from Italy. Academies for the cultivation of the arts and ſciences were inſtituted early in the reign of Lewis XIV. and nobly endowed with pecuniary funds, as well as privileges and honours. The vanity of the king, the ſole motive of his liberality, was abundantly gratified; for nothing could exceed the obſequious adulation of the academicians. They once

had it in contemplation to propoſe a prize for the beſt treatiſe on the queſtion, "By which of all his virtues was his majeſty moſt "honourably diſtinguiſhed?" This act of ſervility, however, Lewis himſelf, vain as he was, had the good ſenſe to prevent; but this meanneſs of the academicians was not incompatible with pride on their part. They exhibited, in their conduct, a ſtrange mixture of obſequiouſneſs to the court, and ſelf-importance and arrogance in their deportment towards their fellow-ſubjects. Admiſſion to the academies, particularly the grand *Academie Françoiſe*, now was made an object of ambition. Philoſophy, or rather perhaps the reputation of being a philoſopher, became the faſhion of the day. Few were qualified to be ſtateſmen, or hold the principal places in the gift of the crown; but all could be, or pretend to be, ſcholars and philoſophers. Philoſophy, combined with literature, but tinctured with human weakneſs, pleaſed vanity, conſoled diſappointment, and employed ſometimes as a vehicle of cenſure, ſerved as an inſtrument of revenge. The number of philoſophers daily increaſed. That philoſophy which, under various forms, and in diverſe ways, had influenced for ſome time the public councils, ſeized at laſt the helm of the French monarchy; and thus the folly of Lewis XIV. blindly laboured for the overthrow of the Bourbons.

There is nothing more curious in a philoſophical, or more important in a political point of view, than to trace the mutual influence of events on opinions, and opinions on events. Their action and re-action on one another, the degree and manner in which

which various tenets and habits of thinking affect the conduct of individuals, it is impoſſible to aſcertain, nor, if it were poſſible, would it be worth while to enquire; but the connexion between creeds and the conduct of princes, between public opinion, public ſpirit, and the fate of nations, is a matter of equal certainty, curioſity and importance. In every age and country a preference is given to ſome particular ſtudy, which not only ſupplants more or leſs other purſuits, but in a certain degree always interferes with, and in ſome inſtances even uſurps the affairs of government. In the earlieſt ſtages of ſociety the minds of men are debaſed by the groſſeſt ſuperſtition. The principal concerns of ſavages and barbarians are managed by conjurors,* Obi-men,† necromancers, and wizards. Even after nations have ſomewhat advanced in civilization, the moſt uſeful as well as the nobleſt talents, in the general eſteem, are thoſe of divination; and in every kingdom and every government hitherto eſtabliſhed, there has been, at leaſt at one period, an alliance between church and ſtate. In the firſt ſteps towards ſcience, men are amuſed with the pretenſions of natural magic and the predictions of aſtrology. Religion, in the common progreſſion of human affairs, is taken out of the hands of mere ſuperſtition, divination explained by the principles of metaphyſics, and adjuſted by the rules of logic. The Veda is interpreted by metaphyſical Brahmins, and the Koran by Mahomedan doctors not leſs ſubtle and diſcerning. The doctrines of the

* As among the Indians in America.

† As in Africa, and among the African ſlaves in the Weſt Indies.

Manichæans and Gnoſtics, as well as thoſe of Plato, entered early into the creeds of Chriſtians. Ariſtotle, and other philoſophers, directed the ſchoolmen; the ſchoolmen the church, and the church for fifteen hundred years the ſtate, and in repeated inſtances the motions of armies. Mighty monarchs maſſacred or exterminated Neſtorians, Arians, Albigenſes, Waldenſes, Jews, Moors, Hugonots, and Preſbyterians. The proteſtant and the catholic faith divided Europe; and diſputes about liberty and neceſſity among the Proteſtants themſelves were tinged with blood. In the times of Roſcelinus and Abelard, kings interfered in the diſpute between the Nominaliſts and the Realiſts; an argument not yet terminated. The medical world at one period was divided between the diſciples of Galen and thoſe of Paracelſus. Thoſe of the two former, from the pride of poſſeſſion, claimed ſtill an excluſive right to the public ear, and obtained from the court of Paris an inhibition againſt thoſe of the latter; though this, like other decrees, gave way in time to the progreſs of opinion. It appears at firſt ſight ſtrange, but nevertheleſs nothing is more certain, than that the affairs of nations may be influenced, as we have juſt ſeen in the caſe of France, by inſtitutions for the ſtudy of mathematics and belles-lettres.

Whoever reflects on the uſual effect of literature and ſcience to awaken the genius of liberty, by exciting a ſpirit of free diſcuſſion on all ſubjects, by preſerving the memory of the ancient republics, by quickening the perception of right and wrong, and vindicating the dignity of human nature, will be apt to conſider the

the introduction of the arts and ſciences into deſpotic governments as a political incongruity; unleſs, indeed, it be the intention of the prince to ameliorate the condition of the people, and raiſe them gradually to a participation of political power, in proportion to their advancement in knowledge. Such, perhaps, was the intention of Peter the Great, czar of Muſcovy, when he introduced arts and ſciences into his vaſt barbarian empire; an intention which probably he conceived in his comprehenſive mind, as likely to be accompliſhed either by himſelf or his ſucceſſors. At the ſame time it was certainly a ſingular ſpectacle to ſee that prince caning his courtiers, and inviting his ſubjects to walk with him into the temple of the Muſes and of Apollo. But what ſhall we ſay of Frederic II. of Pruſſia patronizing French literature and manners, and encouraging philoſophy, and even infidelity? And what of the Emperor Joſeph II. overturning religious eſtabliſhments and promoting free diſcuſſion with one hand, while he ſubverted the privileges of his ſubjects with the other? The obvious concluſion is, that theſe and other deſpotic princes either were not at bottom ſincere friends to the progreſs of knowledge, or that they did not foreſee its political conſequences. Nothing appears more monſtrous and abſurd, than to ſee Guſtavus III. trampling on the privileges of the Swediſh nation one year, and inſtituting academies the next; but, on a cloſer examination of the conduct of the Swede, we ſhall find that it was at leaſt not ſo inconſiſtent as that of the German princes juſt mentioned. His love of abſolute power was ſincere; his zeal for literature and

ſcience

ſcience affected, unnatural, and guarded. It was like the farce acted by Catharine II. when ſhe ordered the body of Peter III. emperor of Ruſſia, to be expoſed on a platform in front of the palace, for the inſpection of medical men and all the world, while centinels were placed at the different avenues for driving back any one who ſhould have the curioſity and the boldneſs to approach it.

It has been obſerved of academies, that they are of uſe only ſo long as the encouragement they hold out is neceſſary to the preſervation and progreſs of ſcience. In times of ignorance, and abounding in prejudice, it has been ſaid, ſuch ſocieties are uſeful as a barrier againſt mountebanks and other impoſtors, and for maintaining a due influence and authority over public opinion. But this influence and authority is the very thing to be dreaded. Governments direct the academies, and the academies the people; and thus the ſciences bend under deſpotiſm: and as they are obedient to the nod, ſo they imitate the ways and manners of courts. They become fond of pomp and ſhew, and more deſirous of adorning their ſocieties with men of titles and rank than with thoſe of genius and learning. A remarkable inſtance of this propenſity, I have heard, happened within the memory of the preſent generation, where the Preſident of an illuſtrious ſociety in Europe had a throne erected for himſelf in place of the uſual chair, with adjacent ſeats a little lower, for foreign ambaſſadors and other perſonages of great diſtinction, ſome on his right hand and others on his left.

The *Academy of Belles-Lettres* at Stockholm, having no other fund

fund for the prizes than the generoſity of the queen dowager, by whom it was inſtituted, would have been diſſolved at her death, if her ſon Guſtavus III. had not taken it under his protection. He not only furniſhed it with a fund for various prizes every year, but alſo for penſions to ſeveral of the members. The province of this academy was extended by the king to foreign literature, Egyptian, Greek and Roman antiquities, the ſcience of emblems, and the ſuperintendancy over medals, inſcriptions, and all public monuments in the kingdom. The number of members is fixed at fifty: ſixteen foreign, fourteen honorary, and twenty ordinary members; the laſt named are profeſſed men of letters. In the firſt mentioned claſs I find the names of the Cardinal de Bernis, French ambaſſador at Rome before and at the time of the French revolution, in the years 1789 and 1790; the Duke of Nivernois; P. F. Suhm, who has lately publiſhed large collections, written in Latin, of the Scandinavian antiquities; and Mr. Pallas, formerly profeſſor in the Imperial academy at Peterſburg. In the liſt of honorary members are to be found Count Frederic Sparre, chancellor of the kingdom. This is the ſame gentleman who, as was ſaid, believed that he ſhould mount up to heaven like Elijah, a circumſtance which places his acuteneſs and intelligence in an unfavourable light. He is the ſubject of no bad, though only a punning epigram, compriſed in four Swediſh verſes. There is a box in the opera-houſe called *œil de bœuf*, or *ox's eye*, in which Count Sparre ſometimes ſat. It is on this point that the epigram turns. Its import is this:—"Mathematicians have aſſumed as a maxim, that

"the

" the whole is greater than a part; but Count Sparre, ſeated in an " *ox's eye*, demonſtrates that a part may be greater than the whole." His excellency Count Oxenſtierna, ſenator, prime miniſter, &c. known in the annals of northern literature by his eulogium on Guſtavus III. beſides an Ode on Hope, and a poem entitled Skörden (harveſt), two pieces of great merit, Roxana, a comedy, and ſeveral ſmaller publications; his excellency Count Duben, ſenator, miniſter of ſtate, and commander of the order of Seraphim, diſtinguiſhed for his knowledge of drawings, medals and emblems; Dr. Von Troil, archbiſhop of Upſala, author of a Voyage to Iceland (the ornithologiſts, to pay him a compliment, have chriſtened a bird after his name, *uria troili)*; Baron Lejuvuhad; Baron Adlercrantz; Mr. Mat. Benzelſtierna; Baron M. Ramel, a very rich landed proprietor, and a lover of the belles-lettres; Count N. Gylenſtolpe; Count C. Gyllemborg, knight of the polar ſtar; he wrote a tolerable epic poem called Tåget of ver Bält (the Paſſage of the Belt) by Charles X., a volume of fables, ſome of them of great merit, and poems, the moſt diſtinguiſhed of which is the Seaſons; Mr. Steenpiper, who has tranſlated Tacitus, a man of great talents; and Dr. Olave Celſius, biſhop of Lund, author of a Hiſtory of Guſtavus Vaſa, and his ſon Eric XIV.

The ordinary members of the academy for belles-lettres, inſcriptions, antiquities, &c. are, Mr. Lillie Strale, well acquainted with Engliſh and French literature; Mr. Bolin, author of a Hiſtory of the Swediſh people down to the reign of Guſtavus Vaſa; Mr. Elers, a poet; Mr. Schoenberg, hiſtoriographer of the kingdom;

Mr.

Mr. Melanderhielm, a mathematician; Mr. Roſenſtein, formerly preceptor to the king, and ſecretary of the Swediſh academy; Mr. B. Ferner, preceptor to Guſtavus III. when prince royal of Sweden; Mr. John Van Angenſtroem, author of a Guide to the Mines for the uſe of travellers (he has now given up the ſciences, and betaken himſelf wholly to agriculture); Mr. C. J. Strand, keeper of the archives of the kingdom; Mr. G. Adlerbeth, antiquarian of the kingdom, and perpetual ſecretary to the academy of belles-lettres (he publiſhed ſome wretched tragedies); Mr. A. F. Riſtel, lately librarian to his majeſty, a poet, and tranſlator of ſeveral ſpeeches in Salluſt; Mr. J. H. Liden, profeſſor of hiſtory; Mr. J. Murrberg, maſter of the cathedral ſchool of Stockholm, an elegant hiſtorian (he wrote an account of Chriſtian's reſidence at Stockholm in 1520); Mr. J. Hallenberg, hiſtoriographer of the kingdom; Mr. C. J. Nordin, dean and hiſtoriographer of the royal orders; he has written, in the Memoirs of the Academy, the Lives of Illuſtrious Swedes; Mr. F. J. Neikter, profeſſor of eloquence at Upſala; Mr. Porthan, profeſſor of eloquence in the univerſity of Abo; Mr. Everhand, profeſſor of the oriental languages.

The regulations of this academy are much the ſame with thoſe of the academy of inſcriptions and belles-lettres at Paris. The new academy at Stockholm for the cultivation of the Swediſh language, is likewiſe formed nearly on the model of the *Academie Françoiſe*, except that the number of the members of the Swediſh academy is only eighteen inſtead of forty. *The Swediſh Academy*, or,

as it is otherwiſe called, the *Eighteen*, was inſtituted by Guſtavus III. in 1788. Of this academy it may be ſaid in general, that inſtead of ſeeking, it would be ſought after; inſtead of encouraging geniuſes formed by nature, its aim and object is to create them: and certainly it muſt be owned that it is a nobler atchievement to make ſomething out of nothing, than to finiſh a work after it is begun. It holds out prizes, it is true; but it is neceſſary to be in favour with ſome of the members in order to obtain one. The merit of a compoſition alone is not ſufficient to enſure it ſucceſs; powerful recommendations and good management and addreſs are required. The members of the academy know beforehand who is to gain the prize, becauſe this is a matter that depends on their own will. They even lend a hand to the favourite candidate for the improvement of his eſſay, and keep up a correſpondence with him upon the ſubject. It is not ſo much the judgment, as the inclination of the academy, that decides. Above all things, a candidate for the prize muſt take good care not to drop a hint of the time employed on his treatiſe. An author for whom the academy had deſtined the firſt prize, inadvertently mentioned in converſation that he had finiſhed his eſſay in no longer a period than eight days: the conſequence was, that he loſt the honour he would otherwiſe have obtained. During my abode at Stockholm, the prize was decreed in favour of a compoſition entitled, "A "Poem to Melpomene, or on the dramatic Art;" containing ſome common place obſervations, expreſſed in high ſounding terms, and praiſing different theatrical pieces, among which there

was

was not one German production ſo much as mentioned, not even Emilia Galotti. I was greatly ſurpriſed to find that not the ſmalleſt notice was taken of Leſſing, a name that it would ſeem difficult, on the ſubject of the drama, not to recollect with high eſteem. But afterwards the myſtery came out. I was informed that the Swediſh academicians profeſſed a contempt for German literature; and that to entertain and own any reſpect for it, was the ſure way to incur diſpleaſure. One might apply to theſe Swediſh *ſages* what Rouſſeau ſaid to the academicians of Paris—"In your own imaginations you give leſſons to and form the taſte "of all France: but three fourths of the people of France do not "ſo much as know of your exiſtence"—for they ſeem to be actuated by the ſame ſort of vanity. They flatter themſelves that their partiality will remain unobſerved, and their deciſions paſs current from the mere weight of their name. This is probably too much the caſe; yet I am well aſſured, and it reflects no ſmall degree of honour on the Swediſh nation, that pieces rejected by the academy are nevertheleſs often read and approved of throughout the provinces.

The members of the Swediſh academy are, Count Oxenſtierna, mentioned among the members of the academy of belles lettres; Count Gyllenborg, mentioned above; Count Claſs Fleming. When Claſs Fleming took his ſeat among the Swediſh academicians, a wag obſerved, that their number amounted now to juſt 170. How ſo? it was aſked. Becauſe, replied he, when a cypher is added to the number 17, the amount is 170.

C. J. Leopold, the Voltaire of Sweden. He has written many things, and all of them of great merit. His beſt work is his tragedy of Oden. He is an adept in ſeveral branches of literature. In the department of belles-lettres he is a deſpot, carrying his praiſe or cenſure to the higheſt extravagance. Leopold is at preſent ſecretary to his majeſty, and librarian.

Mr. Blom, a ſenator of Stockholm, who obtained the ſecond prize through the favour of Mr. Leopold. On this occaſion a poem was written in the Swediſh language, the title of which being interpreted, is, "An Epiſtle in Verſe to thoſe who are ambitious of immortal Fame."

Nils Sjöberg, who gained the prize of the academy ſeveral times.

Nils Von Roſenſtein; Adlerbeth; and Murrberg. All three belonging to the academy of belles-lettres.

Dr. Von Wingard, biſhop of Gothenburg. The biſhop has the reputation of being a very eloquent and pathetic preacher: his funeral ſermon on the late queen dowager, and his diſcourſe at the opening of the diet, 1786, are ſtill ſpoken of with great encomiums.

Mr. Lobeth, one of the moſt active managers of the theatre; Mr. Edelkranz, author of an Elegy on the death of the queen dowager, mother of Guſtavus III. who rewarded him with a place in the academy. An amateur of natural philoſophy: he gave the plan of the telegraph in Sweden.

Mr. Nordin, above mentioned; Mr. Silverſtolpe, who more than once gained the prize of the academy for eloquence and poetry;

poetry; Mr. Ramel, the rich member of the academy of belles-lettres, already noticed; Mr. Lehnberg, a clergyman, who ſeveral times gained the prize; an imitator of the French poet Thomas—his thoughts are unnatural and far-fetched, his ſtyle turgid and bombaſtic; Mr. Tingſtadius, profeſſor of Upſala, celebrated in the north for his tranſlation of the Pſalms, the book of Job, and other poetical portions of the ſcriptures; Mr. Gyllenſtolpe—this man has not written any thing; and it is commonly ſaid in Stockholm, that it is for this reaſon that the Swediſh academicians, out of gratitude, have admitted him into their number.

Beſides the poets who are members either of the Swediſh academy, or that for the cultivation of languages, antiquities, and literary talents in general, there are ſeveral others of more celebrity, or much more popular with the Swediſh nation, than moſt of the poetical academicians, or rather academical poets. Mr. Lidner's poem on the death of the Counteſs of Spaſtara endeavouring to ſave her child out of the flames, and that on the laſt judgment, abound in ſublime ideas and pathetic ſentiments. Mr. Toſild has written a poem on the paſſions, which diſplays an intimate acquaintance with the human mind, as well as a fine and lively imagination; yet in my judgment it will not bear a compariſon with the ode of the Engliſh poet Collins, where the niceſt obſervations on the conduct of the human heart and mind, when in a ſtate of various emotion, are poured forth in a ſtrain of the moſt charming novelty. Though the name of Collins in his own country be mentioned with reſpect and approbation, yet is his fame,

fame there, for ought that I could learn, far inferior to what is due, and will no doubt one day be paid to his merit. His poem on the death of Thomſon may be conſidered as the moſt elegant piece of criticiſm, and the moſt feeling and tender elegy that was ever written by one poet on another. Collins, far ſuperior to that jealouſy and envy which tarniſhes the minds of minor poets among his countrymen, and from which even Pope, that elegant verſifier, is by no means exempt, felt what he wrote, and ſhewed himſelf at once a good and great man, and a pathetic and ſublime poet. But I ſtray from Scandinavia, to which I return. Mr. Torild is not more diſtinguiſhed by his poetical compoſitions than by his enthuſiaſtic admiration of Oſſian. All kinds of poetry not in the ſtyle of Oſſian he utterly deſpiſes. It is needleſs after this obſervation to mention that his own poems are very much written in that ſtyle. There is nothing more natural than for a Scandinavian to have a predilection and partiality for Oſſian: the valour, the virtues, and the extenſive power and dominion of their princes being celebrated in the ſongs of that poet.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER VIII.

The Academy of Sciences at Stockholm—The Claſſes into which it is divided—Some Remarks on the Diſtribution and Arrangement of the Sciences—Abuſe that prevails in admitting as Members of Literary Societies Perſons not properly qualified—A Liſt of the Members of the Academy of Sciences at Stockholm, with Obſervations on their Writings and literary Character—Academy of Sciences at Upſala; Royal Society of Sciences and Belles-Lettres at Gothenburgh; Society at Lund; and other Societies or Academies—Collection of Models and Machines at Stockholm—Diſpoſition of the Swedes for the Arts and Sciences—Their National Character.

THE royal academy of ſciences at Stockholm was founded in 1739. It conſiſts of a hundred members that are natives of Sweden, and a conſiderable number of aſſociates of foreign nations. Their Memoirs are publiſhed in the Swediſh language at the end of every three months. A new preſident is choſen half-yearly. There are two perpetual ſecretaries; no honorary or merely nominal and uſeleſs members. The only funds of this ſociety are the profits ariſing from the monopoly of almanacks, which profits amounted in the year 1800 to two thouſand rix dollars. The obſervatory and the cabinet of natural hiſtory, with the houſe in

in which it is contained, belong to the academy. The former ſuperintendant of the cabinet, Mr. Sparmann, has been ſet aſide, and ſucceeded by Dr. Quenzel, a young man of great induſtry, to whom the academy are indebted for the new order in which the cabinet, that was formerly in the utmoſt confuſion, is now arranged. Dr. Quenzel is a conſiderable proficient in natural hiſtory, and the academy could not have made choice of a more proper perſon for undertaking that charge.

In 1799 the academy was divided into ſeven different claſſes, and a certain number of members was aſſigned to each. This diviſion of the ſciences was indeed a ſevere trial of the abilities of the academicians. In order to make ſuch a diſtribution with philoſophical preciſion, it would have been neceſſary either to deduce the genealogy of all the ſciences and correſponding arts, from the parental ſtock of common principles in the human mind; or in ſome other way to have made an accurate, though general claſſification of the various objects of truth or knowledge.

The great Lord Bacon formed a plan in his book *De Augmentis Scientiarum*, of all the arts and ſciences of which man is capable, by referring them to the leading powers of the mind; memory, judgment, and imagination. This plan has been followed almoſt by every author that has come after him, even by the writers of the French Encyclopædia. But theſe gentlemen have declared, with great candour and judgment, that they experienced an embarraſſment in the arrangement of their ſubjects, in proportion to the latitude allowed of arbitrary choice; as the different branches

of

of knowledge might be referred either to the beings which they have for their objects, or to the different faculties of the ſoul. Difficulties attend either plan. The former involves us in an endleſs labyrinth, not only of *genera* and *ſpecies*, and theſe too the mere work of the human mind; but of individual objects not to be reduced with preciſion to any claſs or mutual correſpondence: the latter implies that latitude of arbitrary choice, which the French encyclopædiſts have juſtly remarked.

The ſcientific academicians of Stockholm have not adopted either of theſe plans, but ſtruck out a new one of their own, as is to be perceived in the following claſſification, which ſeems to reſt principally on the myſtical number ſeven. The firſt claſs have for the ſubject of their inquiries, *œconomy general and rural*. This claſs is compoſed of fifteen members. The ſecond, conſiſting alſo of fifteen members, has for its object, *commerce and the mechanical arts*. The third claſs, in number alſo fifteen, *exterior phyſics and natural hiſtory*. The fourth claſs, likewiſe fifteen, *interior phyſics and natural philoſophy*. The fifth claſs, in number eighteen, *mathematics*. The ſixth claſs, fifteen in number, *medicine*. The ſeventh and laſt claſs, conſiſting of twelve members, is conſigned to *belles-lettres, the hiſtory of the world, languages*, and other ſtudies uſeful or agreeable.

It is evident that the whole of this arrangement is characterized by an air of inaccuracy, whimſicality and confuſion. The laſt claſs is plainly contrived as a receptacle for the various ſubjects of inveſtigation not provided for in any of the former diviſions.

In this arrangement the ſame objects are preſented under different names, while other departments of ſcience are wholly omitted. What is the diſtinction between natural hiſtory and exterior phyſics? and between interior phyſics and experimental philoſophy? Why is commerce detached from general œconomy? and why is there no mention whatever made of moral philoſophy? General œconomy itſelf, in a comprehenſive view of things, falls under the head of moral philoſophy. In this part of the plan there is ſomething extremely unphiloſophical and abſurd. I do not recollect an inſtance of ſuch glaring neglect of the moſt important branch of philoſophy, except one, namely, that in a famous univerſity of England the *ſchola philoſophiæ moralis* is appropriated to the ſole purpoſe of lodging the Arundelian marbles, and other ſculptures and ſtatues. Finally, why ſet apart one claſs of the academicians for the improvement of hiſtory and the belles-lettres, when there was already an academy devoted to thoſe particular purpoſes; and when the object implied in the title of the academy is not literature but ſcience? It has been remarked that the grandeſt ſtrokes of policy have been ſtruck, and the moſt beneficial improvements in political affairs effected by the counſels and management not of diplomatiſts and lawyers, or profeſſional men of any kind, but by men of the world, general ſcholars, and what are commonly called liberally educated gentlemen. In the ſame way men of liberal and unbiaſſed minds might afford better advice for regulating learned ſocieties, ſchools, and univerſities, than profound ſcholars, whoſe views are narrowed by the influence of pedantry.

dantry. Theſe never think of changing their own forms: nature, they fancy, and the courſe of human affairs ought to bend to their forms and inſtitutions; and they would deem it below their dignity to ſubmit their eſtabliſhed notions to experiment and obſervation. The plan of the national inſtitute of France is too liberal, comprehenſive and grand, to be the work of ſchoolmen.

The diviſions of ſcience and ſcientifical purſuits in the academy at Stockholm appear to have been made with a view to give general ſatisfaction, and to open a door for the reception of all men who ſhould be of conſequence enough to add luſtre to the ſociety by their rank, or rich enough to bribe, or mean enough to gain the members by flatteries. There is not a gentleman of landed eſtate who may not become a member of the firſt claſs, nor a merchant who has not very plauſible pretenſions to be choſen into the ſecond; every entomologiſt and ornithologiſt, every collector of fiſhes or inſects, may belong to the third or fourth claſs. By various diviſions and ſubdiviſions of the department of mathematics, any clerk or ſimple arithmetician, any conſtructor of triangles or compiler of almanacks, might have been introduced into the fifth claſs, if this abuſe had not been reſiſted by Mr. Melanderhielm and other gentlemen of true philoſophical diſcrimination. Thus the ſeventh claſs is open to every compoſer of ballads, novels, madrigals, vocabularies and grammars. The great number which compoſe this academy has been made the ſubject of much boaſt in Sweden. It ſhould however be conſidered that the more co-

pious the number of academicians, the more the chance and probability is increaſed of their admitting improper perſons for their aſſociates. Weak and ignorant men, once received, are as proud (and generally more ſo) of the title of academicians as men who, by their talents and abilities, have riſen to that honour; and while they contribute nothing to the ſtock of knowledge, they perplex and confound, by the capricioufneſs of their votes, the beſt laid plans for its enlargement. The number of one hundred is much too great for a country in which literature and ſcience have made but a very limited progreſs. If there were only fifty acting members, and fifty honorary, that is members without votes in the affairs of the academy, there would be leſs room for intrigue and faction, their proceedings would be more philoſophical, and their induſtry receive a happier direction. At preſent a conſiderable portion of their fellows conſiſts of young men without a ſufficient acquaintance with literature and ſcience for ſupporting the name of academicians. For the acquirement of this title nothing more is requiſite, than to be rich and to make preſents to the academy. Thus I know that gentlemen have been choſen whoſe only pretenſion was that of being called a banker, or inſpector of the mines. I was acquainted with ſome young men, the ſons of members, not deficient in literature, but abounding alſo in wealth, who were elected merely for the merits of their fathers. Others have come under my obſervation, who, having made a voyage to Batavia, and ſent home ſome birds and other productions of that

iſland,

iſland, as a preſent to the cabinet of natural hiſtory, were on that account made academicians. Phyſicians in the iſland of St. Barthelemi have been rewarded for ſimilar ſervices in the ſame manner: even poſt-maſters have been complimented with the title of member, merely to enſure the ſafe conveyance of letters and parcels. Such are the fopperies and abſurdities that have been committed in Sweden by a ſociety of philoſophers! The name of academician, or fellow of a learned ſociety, ought not to be beſtowed upon any other qualification or character than that of a man of letters. But theſe qualities are not attached to rank and fortune, or other advantages; nor can they be created by the diploma of an academy. It is therefore ridiculous and inconſiſtent with good ſenſe to place men in ſituations for which they are not fit. Let the academies found orders, and grant to their favourites croſſes or any other particular marks of diſtinction; all theſe may be innocent: but they ſhould not pretend, by the magic of their election, to make philoſophers of men who perhaps ſcarce underſtand the meaning of the expreſſion.

Intrigue, cabal, and envy of real merit, the little vices of ſome academies and learned ſocieties, have an unavoidable tendency to expoſe them to the attacks of wit and ridicule. The ſarcaſtical epigrams to which the ignorance and dulneſs of individual academicians have given birth in different countries, would form an excellent jeſt-book, and be more generally and indeed more juſtly admired than a great part of their memoirs or tranſactions. All the world knows the epitaph on Pirron:

"Ci

" Ci git Pirron qui ne fût rien,
" Pas même academicien."*

The following is a liſt of the academy of ſciences at Stockholm, in 1799.

CLASS I.

Œconomy general and rural.

Mr. Kuneberg, known as the author of ſeveral pieces written on the ſubject of public affairs during the ſittings of the diets or parliaments.

Dr. Schulzenhielm, a phyſician, one of the beſt financiers in Sweden.

Mr. Liliencrantz, formerly a ſenator, a good financier. It was by his advice that the rix dollar was raiſed from the value of nine to that of eighteen dollars. He was alſo the projector of the new ſcheme adopted by government for the diſtillation of brandy, by which the privilege of diſtilling was taken from the Swediſh people, and became a monopoly at the diſpoſal of the crown. By theſe regulations individuals were obliged either to redeem the right of diſtilling their own grain by a ſum of money, or to pay for their ſpirits double the uſual price. The intereſt of the king was thus placed in direct oppoſition to that of the nation. At the ſame time that the price of brandy was ſo much raiſed, and farther advances were ſtill threatened, the farmers were deprived of

* Here lies Pirron, who was nothing,
Not even an academician.

the

the draff, or grains, which had been of great benefit to them in the feeding of their cattle. Such an innovation was as bold and raſh an experiment in Sweden, as the ſuppreſſion of religious ſhows and proceſſions would have been at Rome or Naples. A general inſurrection was apprehended, and the odious monopoly was abandoned. It was ſaid by the beſt humoured among the Swedes, even when the popular indignation and rage againſt Mr. Liliencrantz were moſt fervent, that he was juſtly and ſufficiently puniſhed for his mercileſs attacks on brandy by a certain domeſtic intemperate uſe of that "precious bane." Liliencrantz has the reputation of being an honeſt man, and an upright magiſtrate.

Mr. Ugla, a collector of manuſcripts and ſcarce books, of which he makes preſents to the academy.

Mr. Hellenius, profeſſor of Abo. He has attended with great diligence to the effects produced by intermixing the breed of different ſpecies of animals.

Mr. Græve Ehrensverd, who has publiſhed an account of his travels in Italy, written in a ſtrange manner: his ideas are expreſſed in a myſtical way, and as it were by hieroglyphics. He is an excellent draughtſman, and is particularly happy in caricatures. When admiral-general at Carlſcrona, he was wont to draw caricatures of every one who came to viſit him.

Mr. Dubb, a phyſician at Gothenburg, and author of a phyſico-oeconomical journal, which is much eſteemed.

To the firſt claſs are alſo affixed the names of Count Bunge, Mr. Baron Rappe, and Mr. Dahlberg.

CLASS

CLASS II.

Commerce, and Mechanical Arts, or Handicrafts.

Baron Hermelin. The baron has made ſeveral journies, and at his own expence cauſed geographical maps to be drawn of different portions of the Swediſh dominions. He entertains ſome ideas and projects for cultivating and peopling Lapland. At preſent he is employed in writing a deſcription of that country, and its mineralogical productions. More of this worthy and zealous patriot hereafter.

Baron Ahlſtromer, who has brought ſheep from Spain for improving the breed of thoſe uſeful animals in Sweden.

Mr. Arfvedſon, a rich merchant.

Mr. Gejer, a mineralogiſt, who has publiſhed ſeveral memoirs on lead mines diſcovered in Scania. He has ſet up a manufactory of porcelain of an improved quality, which has been very ſucceſsful.

Mr. Swab, a bergmäſtare, or ſuperintendant of mines, and a good practical mineralogiſt.

Baron de Geer, a very rich man, and ſon of the celebrated Charles de Geer, who wrote a treatiſe on the hiſtory of inſects, publiſhed in ſeven volumes.

Mr. Lindbom, author of a paper on the vindſpet or windlaſs.

Mr. Garnej, author of a work highly eſteemed on founderies of iron in Swediſh *Maſmäſtere.*

To the ſecond claſs alſo belong Mr. Berndſton, and Mr. Bladh, a phyſician.

CLASS III.

Exterior Phyſics, and Natural Hiſtory.

Mr. Lidbeck, a profeſſor at Lund. Having arrived at a very great age, he has now loſt the recollection of the little knowledge of natural hiſtory that he once poſſeſſed.

Mr. Oſbeck, the oldeſt naturaliſt living, and known in the learned world by his Journey in China, which has been tranſlated into different languages.

Mr. Thunberg, more advantageouſly known to the world by his botanical deſcriptions of erica, proſea, garderia, gladiolus, &c. than by his Travels to Japan, in which his trifling obſervations ſeem to keep pace with the inequality and incorrectneſs of his ſtyle. He is now become a farmer; and being at the ſame time the ſucceſſor of Linnæus in the univerſity of Upſala, he is taken up with too many objects and branches of natural hiſtory to be great in any of them. His laſt productions are very inferior, and bear the marks of haſte and negligence.

Mr. Sparrman, a phyſician, and one of the illuminées, or pupils of Meſmer. His name is ſometimes joined to that of Captain Cook, the famous circumnavigator, though he had no connection with him, except that he ſailed in the ſame ſhip. Mr. Sparrman has made himſelf known to the world by his Travels in Africa, which is but a poor work. Beſides this he has publiſhed ſome other books and treatiſes, which do not entitle him to a very high rank in the republic of letters. It ſeems that from diſappoint-

ment he has given up his literary labours, and turned his attention to another occupation, by which he may perhaps render himſelf more uſeful: this is a manufactory for making and printing linen cloth. I have noticed above that the muſeum of the academy was formerly entruſted to his care, but that he has been ſucceeded in that office by Dr. Quenzel.

Mr. Retzius, a profeſſor in the univerſity of Lund. He has publiſhed a ſyſtem of mineralogy, by which he has acquired ſome reputation, though it is ſaid to be founded chiefly on compilation. In the preface to this book he acknowledges that he is not intimately converſant with the ſyſtem of Lavoiſir.

Mr. Odman, a clergyman, and profeſſor at Upſala, well verſed in geography, and editor of different voyages and travels. He is the author of a treatiſe intended to explain ſeveral paſſages in the ſacred ſcriptures by the aid of natural hiſtory. He is accounted an excellent philologiſt, as well as a good naturaliſt: he is profoundly ſkilled in Hebrew and Arabic: he is an an univerſal ſcholar, and his name is famous throughout all Sweden. Being oppreſſed with melancholy, he never ſtirs from his chamber. One day, being ſtrongly afflicted with this indiſpoſition, he ſent to one of his friends to borrow ſome books of any ſort to amuſe him: his friend, knowing his taſte, ſent him a cheſt full of voyages and travels. He is particularly noted for a comprehenſive and tenacious memory, and by means of this and his great reading, he has acquired a more accurate knowledge of many remote parts of the globe than thoſe who have actually travelled in them. He forms

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in his mind an abridgment of all the books he reads; and is, in ſhort, a living encyclopædia.

Mr. Von Carlſon, who has a cabinet of natural hiſtory, which contains a great collection of ſtuffed birds. He is very converſant in ornithology. He has bequeathed by will his collection to the academy, and it is on this ground that he was choſen a member.

Mr. Hornſtedt, who has made a voyage to Batavia, and thence imported ſome natural curioſities.

Mr. Swartz, juſtly celebrated throughout all Europe as a diſtinguiſhed botaniſt. He excels particularly in the claſs of cryptogamia. To his literary merits he adds the advantage of obliging manners, and of a communicative and generous diſpoſition.

Mr. Fahlberg, phyſician to the Swediſh ſettlement in St. Barthelemi, from whence he ſent ſpecimens of natural productions to the academy at Stockholm.

Mr. Paykull. He is the author of a verſion of Anacreon from the French tranſlation, for he does not underſtand the original Greek. He has alſo publiſhed ſome theatrical pieces, viz. Odenſwarman, Virginia and Domuld, which are not thought by any one to be above, and by ſome rather below, mediocrity. The work entitled Fauna Suenia is not ſuppoſed to be entirely his own compoſition.

Mr. Afzelius, lately returned from Sierra-Leone, in Africa, where he reſided for the ſpace of four or five years: he there was the proprietor of a ſmall piece of ground, from which he was driven

into circumſtances of great diſtreſs, by that exterminating rage which prevailed at that time between the French and the Engliſh. He collected objects of natural hiſtory in that country; and is going to publiſh a *Fauna* and *Flora Quineenſis*. He is alſo a proficient in oriental languages.

Mr Acharius, who has publiſhed ſome tracts on the moſſes and lichens, under the title of *Lichenographia*; in which work he is indebted to the aſſiſtance of Mr. Swartz.

Mr. Norberg; this gentleman has travelled a great deal in Ruſſia, and is eſteemed a very ingenious and ſkilful mechanic. He has made ſeveral improvements in the ſteam engine, and given other proofs of mechanical invention.

CLASS IV.

Interior Phyſics, and Experimental Philoſophy.

Mr. Von Engeſtröm, already noticed in the academy of belles-lettres.

Mr. J. G. Gahn, of Fahlun: he is an excellent metallurgiſt, and acquainted with all the principal experiments in metallurgy, as well as with books on that ſubject in different languages. He is the moſt engaging and intereſting gentleman in Fahlun, on account both of his general knowledge and his polite and elegant hoſpitality.

Mr. Hielm, a chemiſt blindly devoted to the ſyſtem of Bergmann.

Baron Von Gedda, formerly an accurate experimenter; but he has

has lived till he has become very aged, till he has loſt his ſight; and what is more mortifying—his fame.

Mr. J. Gadolin, a very good chemiſt, and author of a treatiſe on the elements of chemiſtry.

Mr. Julin, an apothecary; his admiſſion into the academy was the reward of his meteorological obſervations at Ullåborg, which were made with great diligence and accuracy: he is a good and active collector in natural hiſtory.

Mr. Broling, who has been in England for the purpoſe of ſeeing the mines, and becoming acquainted with the methods which are uſed in that country of working them: he paſſes in Sweden for the inventor of a flexible catheter, made of elaſtic gum; and alſo of a ſolution of iron for ſtamping names or any other mark on linen cloth, without injuring it. He imported from England the ſecret of pulveriſing Peruvian bark and other ſubſtances; on which account it is believed he was forced to quit that country.

Mr. Edelcrantz, already noticed in the Swediſh academy; he is a kind of butt to both academies. Guſtavus III. called him *Lyren-krantz*; but the ſecretary of ſtate, Schröderheim, obſerved, that he ought to be called *Muſen-krantz*, which in Swediſh implies a riſible double ſignification.

Mr. Sioſten, a young man, as well in years as in the ſtudy of phyſics; he has tranſlated into the Swediſh tongue Cavallo's Theory of Electricity.

CLASS

CLASS V.

Mathematical Sciences.

Mr. Gadolin, biſhop of Abo.

Mr. Ferner, already noticed in the academy of belles-lettres.

Mr. Melanderhielm; he has written a book on aſtronomy, in two volumes octavo; a courſe of mathematics, in ſeveral volumes not yet printed; commentaries on the theory of the moon, and ſeveral papers in the *acts* of the academy. As a mathematician, he has the character of a conſummate calculator, and profound geometrician. His manners are marked by an uncommon degree of coldneſs and apparent indifference.

Mr. af Chapman, known as the author of experiments on the reſiſtance of fluids, printed among the memoirs of the academy. He is conſidered as the greateſt naval architect in Sweden.

Mr. Planman, celebrated for an obſervation taken at Cayanaberg, of the tranſit of the planet Mercury over the ſun; which obſervation, in conjunction with that of *De la Caille*, at the Cape of Good Hope, form the baſis for the menſuration of dimenſion in the ſyſtem of the world.

Mr. Proſperin, celebrated on account of his extenſive table on the diſtances of comets, and ſeveral memoirs publiſhed in the acts of the academy on the ſame ſubject.

Mr. Lejonmark, author of ſeveral memoirs on the conſtruction of equations of the third and fourth degree. Not a man of genius

nius or invention, but well acquainted with chemiſtry and mineralogy. He is *bergråt*, or counſellor of the college of miners.

Mr. Nicander, compiler of the Swediſh almanacks.

Mr. Landerbeck, author, as I believe, of a paper publiſhed in the tranſactions of the royal ſociety of London, "De Methodo "inveniendi Curvas ex datis radiorum Oſculi proprietatibus." When he was firſt propoſed as a member by Ferner, he was rejected; but on his producing a letter of recommendation from England, as is ſaid, he was admitted.

Mr. Nordmark, formerly profeſſor of mathematics at Grieſſewalde; now profeſſor of natural philoſophy at Upſala. He is the author of ſeveral memoirs publiſhed among the acts of the academy, and of one publiſhed lately under the title of "Lacunæ in "doctrinâ proportionum Euclideæ animadverſæ, expletio," in which he undertakes to obviate the objections of Dr. Robert Simſon, profeſſor in the univerſity of Glaſgow, to the fifth and ſeventh definitions in the fifth book of Euclid;* and in which he has clearly ſhewn that Euclid's method of treating proportions is ſtrictly mathematical. He is one of the moſt learned and enlightened men in the univerſity of Upſala: he is not only acquainted with the modern languages, and with Greek and Latin, but is alſo a great proficient in Hebrew, Arabic, and Syriac.

Mr. Lidtgren, aſtronomical obſerver at Lund.

Mr. Schulten, profeſſor in the military ſchool at Carlberg: he has made hydrographical charts of the gulph of Bothnia; and

* See Simſon's Elements of Euclid.

publiſhed,

publiſhed, for the uſe of his pupils, elements of aſtronomy and mechanics.

Mr. Nordwall, one of the beſt mechanics in Sweden. It was under the direction of Nordwall that the famous canal of Trolhätta was completed. He is now engaged in the continuation of a work, called in Swediſh *Bergwerks Lexicon*, i. e. a dictionary on mines and mineralogy: it was begun by Mr. Renman, who wrote a hiſtory of Sweden, which is well known in the literature of that country.

Mr. Swamberg, ſecretary to the academy, a native of Torneå. He is a profound mathematician and aſtronomer; a man of extenſive general knowledge, and a true philoſopher. He has been lately ſent into Lapland to verify the obſervations of Maupertuis, and is at this moment employed, together with other mathematicians, in repeating the obſervations made by the French academicians, which were ſuſpected of inaccuracy.

To the ſame claſs likewiſe belong Mr. Polheimer, a good mechanic; Mr. Tegman, and Mr. Bouck.

CLASS VI.

Medicine.

Mr. af Acrel, eſteemed the beſt ſurgeon in Sweden. He is a man of great merit; but it is to be regretted that he has remained wholly ignorant of the diſcoveries that have been made in phyſiology during the laſt ten years, in other parts of Europe. The conſequence of this is, that he is devoted to his own ſyſtem, and will

will admit no alteration and improvement. He is a good operator.

Mr. Schultzencrantz, a very old man, was in his day an excellent accoucheur.

Mr. Wahlbom, a naturaliſt.

Mr. Odhelius; in extreme old age, he has not only ſurvived his reputation as an operator in diſeaſes of the eyes, but almoſt all recollection of his exiſtence.

Mr. Blom, already mentioned in the Swediſh academy; he is one of the ſuperintendants of the mines at Fahlun.

Mr. Acrel, junior, nephew to the older Acrel, and as diſtinguiſhed in his profeſſion. This young man gave indications of a vigorous and inventive mind, and much was expected from the progreſs of years and experience. But a ſtroke of apoplexy in the head has obliged him to retire from buſineſs, and to abandon his ſtudies.

Mr. Murray, a great anatomiſt, and profeſſor of anatomy at Upſala: he has written a number of papers in the memoirs of the academy of ſciences at Stockholm, as well as in thoſe of the royal ſociety at Upſala. He is poſſeſſed of an extraordinary fund of knowledge, and noted for his ardent zeal to communicate his ſkill and ſcience to his pupils.

Mr. Hagſtrom, a ſurgeon and phyſician at Stockholm: the beſt accoucheur after Schultzencrantz. He is accounted a more learned man than the latter.

Mr. Weſtring, a phyſician at Norköping. He has publiſhed ſome intereſting obſervations on the uſe that may be made of lichens in the production of various colours.

Mr. H. Gahn, a phyſician, who is at the head of his profeſſion in Sweden in reſpect of the theory of phyſic. He is attentive to every new experiment, diſcovery, and improvement, and keeps pace with the progreſs of ſcience.

Mr. Noezen, a phyſician at Upſala, who employs his leiſure hours in the ſtudy of natural hiſtory. He has given a deſcription of ſome inſects.

Mr. Tengmalm, a phyſician at Weſteraas, and accounted the beſt practitioner in the provinces. He has furniſhed two very good papers in the memoirs of the academy, one on Swediſh birds, and another on a woman who bred a number of flies in her noſe.

CLASS VII.

Belles-Lettres, Univerſal Hiſtory, Hiſtory of Literature and other Studies, uſeful or agreeable.

Mr. Schonberg, already noticed in the academy of belles-lettres.

Mr. Liljeſtrâle, a poet.

Mr. Gerſve, Count Sparre. See academy of belles-lettres.

Mr. Aldbreth, a member of the two foregoing academies.

Mr. Von Roſenſtien, before mentioned in the Swediſh academy.

Mr. Franc, a poſt-maſter.

Baron

Baron Renterholm, famous on account of the influence he poſſeſſed in the direction of public affairs during the regency. I know not that he has cultivated any branch of literature.

Mr. Roſenbald, a devotee, and thought to be one of the illuminati.

Mr. Silverſtolpe. See Swediſh academy.

Mr. Ekel: the beſt chemiſt in Sweden.

In this academy we alſo find the names of Mr. Zetzel, Lagerheim, Oſverbom, Schultzenheim, and Roſenhane.

Beſides the literary academies, of which I have given an account in the foregoing pages, there are ſome others in Sweden, viz.

1. The royal academy of ſciences at Upſala, whoſe tranſactions are written in Latin.

2. The royal ſociety for the cultivation of ſciences and belles-lettres at Gothenburg, which has publiſhed ſome memoirs.

3. The royal phyſiographical ſociety, which was inſtituted at Lund in 1776, and incorporated by the king in 1778. The papers, which this ſociety has given to the world, relate only to the natural hiſtory, chemiſtry, and agriculture of the province of Skåne or Scania.

4. The ſociety of belles-lettres, natural hiſtory, and rural œconomy at Carlſtadt.

5. The academy of belles-lettres at Abo.

6. The Finlandiſh ſociety for rural œconomy.

7. The patriotic and agricultural ſociety of Stockholm.

8. The academy for painting and ſculpture at Stockholm.

9. The ſociety for the inſtruction of fellow-citizens at Stockholm.*

The academy of ſciences hold their meetings in the Obſervatory, which is a lofty and beautiful edifice, ſituated on an eminence at the extremity of the city, and furniſhed with a great number of excellent aſtronomical inſtruments of all ſorts. There is nothing by which the genius of the Swedes is more diſtinguiſhed, than a happy turn for mechanical improvement, which is called forth and encouraged by their mines. It was by means of inſtruments made at Stockholm, that the Swediſh aſtronomers detected certain inaccuracies in the obſervations made by Maupertuis. There is at Stockholm, in an ancient palace where the courts of

* On the ſubject of the actual ſtate of literature in Sweden I ought to take notice of men of letters, of diſtinguiſhed talents and accompliſhments, who are neither members of academies, nor profeſſors in univerſities. Perhaps I ought alſo to mention ſtrangers who, from the circumſtance of being eſtabliſhed in ſome of the public offices at Stockholm, have an opportunity of contributing either directly or indirectly to the advancement of literature and ſcience. But ſuch perſons, retired from the pomp and parade of learning, have a right to be protected under the ſhade of their philoſophical retreat. As they are not ambitious of public praiſe, ſo neither ought they to be dragged forth into public criticiſm and cenſure. I cannot, however, avoid naming Mr. Catteau, a miniſter of the calviniſtic perſuaſion at Stockholm, author of a book called Tableau de la Suede, a Picture or a View of Sweden, which has been tranſlated into Engliſh. Mr. Catteau has a true and genuine taſte and turn for literature. Avoiding the noiſe of an oſtentatious though lazy ſociety, he divides his time and his cares between his parochial duties and his ſtudies, and has been employed for theſe laſt years in ſtatiſtical enquiries concerning Denmark and Sweden. His work will be the moſt complete that we have of the kind, and will ſerve as a model in that ſpecies of compoſition. It was printing at Paris, and one volume of it had appeared when this was written.

juſtice

juſtice are now held, near the church of Riderſholm, a cabinet of models, or repoſitory of machines, the moſt complete collection of the kind that I have ever ſeen or heard of. The models relate either to new inventions, or to improvements in machinery; they are kept in a ſpacious room, and arranged in a very proper and elegant manner. Among the models for rural œconomy you obſerve different kinds of mills, inſtruments for ſowing grain, for ſhearing or cutting, and gathering the crop, and alſo for threſhing it; hydraulic machines, ſtoves uſed in the mines, and pumps, with their apparatus and mode of working them. It may ſeem ſcarcely credible, even almoſt miraculous, yet it is nevertheleſs true, that the Swedes have invented a mechanical overſeer, one who performs more faithfully, diligently, indefatigably, accurately, and more equitably to both parties, the employers and employed, the duties of ſuperintendant of workmen. A conſiderable part of the labour in the mines conſiſts in working the pumps, therefore a clock has been invented for marking the number of ſtrokes given by the pumpers; hence the preciſe proportion of work they have performed is eaſily aſcertained. Here too are models of light-houſes, and various methods of making ſignals to navigators; a chair in which a perſon may conveniently move himſelf from one place to another; an inſtrument which ſhews the line of direction taken by a ball when diſcharged from a cannon or mortar: but it would be endleſs to enumerate all the ingenious contrivances that may be ſurveyed in this curious depoſitory. They are many of them the works of the celebrated engineer and mechanic Polt-

theim.

theim. This cabinet is open to the inſpection of every body; but if you wiſh to ſee it alone, or without being interrupted by a crowd of ſpectators, a gratuity of about an Engliſh ſhilling given to the door-keeper will procure you this favour. My inſpection influenced me to remark, that many mechanical inventions and improvements, which are produced to the Engliſh nation as new, may be found to have originated in Germany, and to have been previouſly known in Sweden. This ſhould put the people of England upon their guard not to betray their ignorance in giving approbation and patronage to things that are borrowed from other nations, and held out to them as inventions. That favoured country poſſeſſes ſo much original genius, and has been the fountain of ſo much excellence, that it is vain, fooliſh and ſuperfluous in its inhabitants to plume themſelves on mechanical novelties firſt brought to light in other nations.

Although it muſt be confeſſed, that the Swediſh academies are not altogether formed on plans that ſtand the teſt of philoſophical ſcrutiny, yet it cannot be denied that there is notwithſtanding in Sweden, and even in the academies, much genius and induſtry directed to uſeful purpoſes, and productive of the beſt fruits. The original intention of thoſe inſtitutions certainly was good, though they were afterwards perverted and abuſed; for when men meet and converſe freely together, they have an opportunity of comparing their ideas, of confirming their opinions when right by the obſervations of others, or correcting them when wrong by their criticiſms. Different notions are ſtarted by dif-

ferent

ferent people on the ſame ſubject, which ſingly might be of little uſe; but when collected and concentrated may lead to important conſequences: hence enquiries are ſet on foot, analogies are diſcovered, theories formed, and ſcience is enlarged. Beſides this, it is of great advantage for individuals to be ſometimes interrupted in the monotonous train of their own ideas, and to have them interminghed and varied by the conceptions of others. This acts upon the mind as a ſtimulus, and produces vigour and acuteneſs; whereas a dull uniformity ſlackens its efforts. On the ſubject of literary ſocieties it may be farther obſerved, that there is in every human creature a deſire to be regarded by his fellow-men with complacency and reſpect, and a propenſity to invite the ſympathy of our neighbours with our emotions of admiration, wonder, ſurprize, and averſion. Hence the advantage of poſſeſſing a reſpectable and congenial circle, ready to attend to our diſcoveries and lucubrations, is a powerful incitement to inquiry of various kinds, and to conſtant and accurate obſervation; and the weight of ſtudy is relieved by ſocial delight. But the advantages of ſuch ſocieties are not confined to entertainment, or to pleaſure mixed with inſtruction. They likewiſe have a happy moral effect: they abſtract men of leiſure from frivolous or pernicious amuſements; they fortify every humane ſentiment, every virtuous purpoſe, and every laudable purſuit. Such is the natural tendency of literary ſocieties drawn together, as they at firſt commonly are, by private friendſhip, ſimilarity of ſentiments, and a genuine deſire of information and improvement; and it is commonly in their firſt ſtages

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that they are moſt flouriſhing. When they are more and more extended, when numbers of ſtrangers are introduced, when they are honoured with public celebrity, and the countenance and interference of kings and princes, ſimplicity and ſincerity of intention, mutual goodneſs, and a love of truth, are exchanged for vanity, pomp, and faction.

There is, perhaps, no country in Europe where inſtruction is ſo univerſally diffuſed among the very loweſt of the people as in Sweden, except Iceland, Scotland,* and the late ſmall republic of Geneva. All the people in towns, villages, and hamlets, without exception, are taught to read. It was not without reaſon, therefore, that Guſtavus III. who kept a watchful eye on every event that might influence the ſtate of ſociety, interdicted all mention in the Swediſh journals of a French revolution, either good or bad. He wiſhed the people not only to be prevented from thinking of it, and reaſoning about it; but as much as poſſible to be kept in the dark as to its very exiſtence. The effects to be deſired or dreaded in any country from the productions of the preſs, are, no doubt, in proportion to the degree and extent of education which the people at large have received. It does not follow, from the circumſtance of the Swedes being all taught to read, and attached to

* In Scotland I find there is ſcarcely any perſon, no not even a beggar, who cannot both read and write; nor any in Iceland who cannot read, write, and caſt accounts. In every family in Iceland the children are inſtructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, at home, by their parents or other relatives. When the boys are ſent to ſchool it is to acquire Latin, and other accompliſhments, ſuch as ſome knowledge of geography, and of the elements of mathematics.

eſtabliſhed

eſtabliſhed tenets and modes of worſhip, that they ſhould be an honeſt and good ſort of people: this however is the caſe. The Swedes, I mean the peaſantry, (for as to the inhabitants of towns they are corrupt in proportion to their population, their commerce, and their luxury) are a frank, open, kind-hearted, gay, hoſpitable, hardy, and ſpirited people. It would be difficult to point out any nation that is more diſtinguiſhed by a happy union of genius, bravery, and natural probity of diſpoſition. They are repreſented by their neighbours as the *gaſcons* of Scandinavia. This charge, when due allowance is made for the mutual jealouſy and antipathy of neighbouring nations, amounts to no more than this, that they are actuated by that ſenſibility to fame, and love of diſtinction, which generally predominate in the breaſts of brave, generous, and adventurous people.

CHAPTER VIII.

Inſtitutions for the Purpoſes of Education in Sweden: Pariſh Schools, Public Schools, Gymnaſia, and Univerſities—Account of the Univerſity of Lund—The Profeſſors and Students: the Method of teaching, and the Things that are taught—The Univerſity of Upſala—Some Intelligence of the individual Character of ſeveral Profeſſors—The Univerſity of Abo—General Remarks on the Swediſh Univerſities—Guſtavus III. enters the Prince Royal at the Univerſity of Upſala.

THERE is certainly no country in the world in which greater proviſion has been made, and more pains taken for the advancement and diffuſion of knowledge among all claſſes of ſociety, than in Sweden: a proof at once of a liberal and enlightened turn of mind, and of that reſpect for the dignity and rights of human nature, which compenſates to rude climates the want of many bleſſings enjoyed in more genial and productive regions. That this praiſe is not beſtowed on the Swediſh nation without reaſon, will appear from a general view of their inſtitutions for the purpoſes of education and inſtruction, which are known by the names of ſchools, gymnaſia, and univerſities.

Every pariſh has its ſchool, in which the common rudiments of reading

reading and writing are taught. Beſides this, there is a public ſchool maintained in every large town at the expence of the crown, in which the boys continue till about their eleventh or twelfth year, when they are commonly ſent to one of the gymnaſia. Theſe alſo are public ſchools, but upon a larger ſcale than the former; and one of them exiſts in almoſt every province. From the gymnaſia the young men, at the age of ſeventeen or eighteen, proceed to one of the univerſities, and for the greater part to Upſala. In the gymnaſia, and many of the greater ſchools, they are not only inſtructed in the Latin, Greek and Hebrew languages, but in the principal doctrines of theology. Theſe *ſchola illuſtres* and gymnaſia, are under the care and inſpection of the biſhops of the reſpective dioceſes in which they are eſtabliſhed, and where the biſhops conſtantly reſide. The biſhops, accompanied by ſome of the inferior clergy, and others, viſit and examine the ſchools publicly at fixed periods. The courſe of education, and the books read, are not left to the diſcretion of the teachers, but preſcribed by public authority. At Stockholm there is a German ſchool, which is placed under the inſpection of two German miniſters of the goſpel. In this ſeminary the pupils are inſtructed in Grecian, Roman, and modern hiſtory, geography and religion. The Swediſh gentlemen are ſeldom contented with what may be called a ſcholaſtic, or a gymnaſtic education, but proceed either from one of the greater, or, as they call them, the illuſtrious ſchools; or more generally from one of the gymnaſia to the univerſity. The ſons of wealthy tradeſmen too, and peaſants, have very frequently

the advantage of an univerſity education. If any of the youth whoſe circumſtances might not admit of an univerſity education, give indications of fine parts, and a genius for any department of ſcience; the inſpectors, who are in general allowed to diſcharge their duty with great diligence and fidelity, make a report of him to the king, who then orders that he may receive an education ſuitable to his talents and his merit. I may take this opportunity to obſerve, that the Swediſh clergy are for the moſt part regular and decent in their deportment, and attentive to the duties of their office.

In the Swediſh dominions are three univerſities, that of Upſala, that of Lund, and that of Abo. Following, as ought to be done in a book of travels, the geographical order of the places, I begin with that of Lund, the capital of Scania, eſteemed the moſt ancient town in Sweden. It is ſituated about ſixty Swediſh miles * to the ſouth of Stockholm, and ſixty-ſeven of Upſala. It is the reſidence of an archbiſhop. The climate is remarkably ſalubrious; the country around being plain, preſents in an open and extenſive view a horizon well adapted to obſervations in aſtronomy. Acroſs the arm of the ſea which divides Sweden from Denmark, you ſee Copenhagen and the Daniſh ſhores. The profeſſors in the univerſity, including *adjuncts*, or aſſiſtants, are in number more than fifty; the ſtudents in common years three hundred. The library contains above twenty thouſand volumes. There is alſo a botanical garden at Lund, but of no celebrity; the

* The Swediſh mile is nearly equal to ſeven Engliſh miles.

number

number of plants does not exceed one thouſand two hundred. It was in the univerſity of Lund that Linnæus, under the countenance and tuition of profeſſor Stobieus, acquired his firſt ideas of his arrangements in natural hiſtory; and he lived to ſee his favourite ſtudy beginning to flouriſh in that ſeminary, under the influence of one of his own pupils. Before this dawn, we find him in his writings expreſſing his wonder, that in a ſituation much more favourable than that of Upſala, as being four degrees more ſoutherly and weſterly, the garden of Lund had not riſen to ſome eminence. The univerſity was eſtabliſhed in 1688, by Charles XI. and called after his name—*Academia Carolina Gothorum.* The profeſſorſhips are divided into four claſſes or faculties:—1ſt. Theology; 2d. Juriſprudence; 3d. Medicine; 4th. Philoſophy: to which there has been added a fifth claſs of profeſſors, under the name of ARTIUM CULTIORUM MAGISTRI, or *Profeſſors of the more elegant Accompliſhments*, viz. of fencing, muſic, dancing, and drawing. In theology there are three profeſſors, and two profeſſors extraordinary, beſides what they call two *magiſtri docentes*, or private teachers, whoſe buſineſs it ſeems to be, not only to inſtruct the ſtudents in divinity and eccleſiaſtical hiſtory, and to expound to them ſome portion annually of the ſacred ſcriptures, but alſo, in an eaſy and familiar manner, to ſolve their doubts by an explanation of any difficult point in the Bible, or any other ſubject that the ſtudents may wiſh to have illuſtrated. In like manner the aſſiſtant profeſſors in the other faculties, in this as well as in the other Swediſh univerſities, are always ready to anſwer

anſwer any queſtions that may be put to them by the ſtudents, whether in the lecture-room or privately. The profeſſors moſt diſtinguiſhed by academical ardour encourage ſuch queſtions very much, and are highly delighted when they find in them proofs not only of diligence, but of genius; for, not to take for granted every thing that is given out, but to heſitate, to doubt, and to ſtart difficulties, is ſo far to be conſidered as a mark of genius, as it ſhews that other powers of the mind are at work beſides mere conception and memory. I have been told by different perſons, both in Ireland and Scotland, that the celebrated Hutchinſon, profeſſor of moral philoſophy in the univerſity of Glaſgow, and author of a book on morals, which makes all virtue to conſiſt in benevolence, prompted by a moral ſenſe, was wont to live, as it were, and converſe with his pupils, as if they had been his equals and companions. There was never a day that paſſed when he did not walk even for hours in the college gardens with ſome of his ſtudents, of whoſe capacity he entertained a good opinion, or with one that choſe to converſe with him, and aſk any queſtion. In the evenings, in like manner, he always had a number of them at his houſe.

The ſcience of theology, if it admits of any progreſſive improvement, has certainly experienced none in the univerſity of Lund, where orthodoxy reigns in its moſt rigid form. The caliph Omar was not more firmly perſuaded that every thing neceſſary or proper to be known by man was contained in the Koran, than the profeſſors of divinity at Lund are, that there is nothing

nothing on the ſubject of theology to be added or deſired, beyond what has been taught by Luther. Dr. Hylander, one of the profeſſors extraordinary of divinity, teaches the Greek and oriental languages.

In the faculty of juriſprudence there are two profeſſors, one aſſiſtant, and one *magiſter docens*, or private teacher. Profeſſor Tingwall is known in the north by his ſyſtem of juriſprudence, publiſhed in the Swediſh language, and by the induſtry and zeal with which he diſcharges the duties of his office. The other profeſſor, Laurence Munthe, is eſteemed a man of conſiderable learning in his profeſſion.

In the medical claſs there are three profeſſors, Dr. Wollin, Dr. Barfoth, and Dr. Engelhart; and two aſſiſtants, Dr. Floriman and Dr. Munck.

Dr. Barfoth, profeſſor of anatomy, travelled in England and part of Scotland.

Dr. Engelhart, profeſſor of the theory and practice of medicine, is firſt phyſician to the king. He is conſidered as a man of the world rather than a man of letters; and in return, he treats men who are only men of letters and ſcience, and not converſant with the great world, in a very haughty and ſupercilious manner. His academical lectures may be deemed rather compilations than original productions, and are chiefly recommended to the attention of the auditors by an eaſy and agreeable elocution. The Doctor travelled both in France and England.

Dr.

Dr. Floriman teaches oſteology, materia medica, and the veterinary art.

The province of Dr. Munck is chiefly pathology.

In the faculty or claſs of philoſophy there are ſeven profeſſors, and fifteen aſſiſtant profeſſors. The profeſſors give lectures on mathematics, algebra, aſtronomy, natural hiſtory, civil hiſtory both ancient and modern, and hiſtory of lite rature: the Greek and oriental languages, botany, georgics, or rural œconomy, the law of nature and nations, metaphyſics, &c.

The profeſſorial aſſiſtants, beſides the elementary and moſt uſeful parts of natural ſcience, ſuch as geography, the elements of botany, horticulture and other branches of georgics, teach a kind of logic, which they define to be a branch of theoretical philoſophy; that is, they teach to make ſyllogiſms, modes, and figures, and all the old machinery of diſputation: but the chief buſineſs of theſe aſſiſtants ſeems to be, to explain with philoſophical and critical remarks the Greek and Latin claſſics. They anſwer in a great degree to what in ſome countries are called, profeſſors of humanity. They alſo profeſs to lecture on the hiſtory of moral philoſophy; of which however they do not ſeem to make any great account. In a proſpectus of the lectures that were to be read, I find the following notice—"Laur P. Wählin "N. Mag. Hiſt. Litt. docens, fata philoſophiæ moralis futuris au- "ditoribus enarrare ſibi propoſuit."* I could not learn that they

* "Laurence Wahlin, maſter of philoſophy, and teacher of the hiſtory of lite- "rature, propoſes to give an account to thoſe who may chooſe to hear him, of "the hiſtory of moral philoſophy."

enter

enter at all deeply, at this univerſity, into the queſtion concerning the foundation of moral obligation. They certainly do not keep pace with the viciſſitudes and progreſs of the various opinions on that ſubject. All that is good for any thing in moral philoſophy is contained, as they ſuppoſe, in Cicero de Officiis and Puffendorf. I am inclined to ſuſpect that moral philoſophy at Lund is regarded with an evil eye, as being in ſome reſpects inimical to the tenets of Luther. I have not been able to diſcover that this ſubject is very much attended to in many Catholic or Lutheran, or in other words in many Epiſcopal univerſities.

The profeſſors in philoſophy are,

Mr. Lidbeck, already noticed among the members of the academy of ſciences.

Sommelius, heretofore librarian: he has publiſhed a Greek grammar in Swediſh, and a great number of academical diſſertations.

Matthias Norberg, profeſſor of Greek and oriental languages, a member of the philoſophical ſociety of Gothenburg, and a correſpondent member of the muſeum at Paris. He travelled with the celebrated Biörnſtahl, in Greece, Turky, Italy, &c. He has introduced a new mode of pronouncing Hebrew, and a new method of acquiring that language with facility. His mode of pronouncing Greek, though generally deemed new, was formerly adopted by Reuchlin, who maintained a diſpute on that ſubject with Eraſmus, whoſe pronunciation is ſtill retained at Upſala. It would, in my opinion, be difficult to ſpecify any object of literary inveſtiga-

tion more useless or uncertain than an enquiry into the exact mode of pronouncing dead languages. Mr. Norberg is undoubtedly a man of genius, as well as of industry and learning. He has published a *Codex Syriaco Hexaplaris*, with a Latin version, and a great variety of academical treatises, relating chiefly to the eastern nations, their manners and customs, of which he is a great admirer; their gods, laws, &c. and all in a style of pure latinity, formed chiefly on that of Tacitus.

Matthew Fremling, professor of theoretical philosophy. He has published a piece entitled, "An Enquiry into the Arguments "of Mr. Kant in favour of the existence of God, and of the Im- "mortality of the Soul;" with some theological essays. His best works are, his Dissertations on Space as it is conceived by Kant. He possesses great acuteness of mind, as well as a fine imagination, and fluency of expression, and has the talent of diffusing an interest and animation on the most abstruse subjects. He has been engaged in several literary controversies with the present bishop (formerly professor) Munthe, a follower and commentator of Kant's system.

Retzius, professor of natural history, chemistry and oeconomy, above noticed.

Tegman, professor of mathematics, esteemed a very good teacher.

Lundbald, professor of poetry and eloquence. He gained the prize in the academy of belles-lettres by a poem on the victory of Charles XII. at Narva. He is a great Latin poet, and indeed the only one in Sweden.

Sjöberg,

Sjöberg, profeſſor of hiſtory, author of diſſertations on Swediſh antiquities.

In the Swediſh as in the German univerſities, there is an order of graduates called doctors of philoſophy. It may ſerve to throw ſome light perhaps on the ſtate of philoſophy in Sweden, to mention the manner in which they obtain their degree. They firſt undergo an examination on the ſubject of divinity, and afterwards on that of Latin. Having gone through theſe examinations, they are examined a ſecond time on the ſubject of Latin, and ſome queſtions are put to them by all the ten profeſſors. They then defend ſome theſis of their own compoſition, and without any further ceremony are made doctors of philoſophy. There are two printing offices in Lund.

The ſtudents of the univerſity of Lund are in general not of the firſt and richeſt, but the poorer claſſes of ſociety: they had the character of being very riotous, and frequently ſhewed that kind of unruly ſpirit by which, as I underſtand, the Eton and Weſtminſter ſcholars have upon ſome occaſions diſtinguiſhed themſelves. Of late, however, the manners of the Lundians have become more gentle and refined, and that refractariaeſs and defiance on which they formerly prided themſelves, is gradually ſoftened into decency and tranquillity, ſuch as becomes the friends of the muſes. A ſociety or club has been eſtabliſhed for purchaſing the periodical publications of foreign countries, among the profeſſors and ſtudents, which brings about a ſort of connection that is very advantageous to the former, and occupies their attention

by a rational amuſement. The vicinity of the ſea, and an eaſy mode of intercourſe, enables the inhabitants of Lund to keep up their acquaintance with Denmark and Germany, and to obſerve and benefit by the progreſs of literature in theſe countries.

In this, as in the other Swediſh univerſities, catalogues in Latin are publiſhed of the ſubjects to be treated, and the books to be explained and commented on by the different profeſſors, aſſiſtant profeſſors, and other teachers in their lectures. It may be amuſing to our claſſical readers to ſee ſome ſpecimens of the Latin advertiſements by which, in thoſe liſts, the different maſters invite not only regular ſtudents, but it would ſeem every other perſon, to avail themſelves of their leſſons and inſtructions. I have therefore ſubjoined a few of theſe notices, not only by the profeſſors of Lund, but thoſe of the two other univerſities.* The different

* UNIVERSITY OF LUND.

Eric Guſtaf Lidbeck, hiſtor. natur. & œcon. prof. &c. &c. Prælectionibus publicis brevi curſu mineralogico abſoluto, plantas officinales vivas variaſque in œconomiâ utiliſſimas, herbas, arbores, & frutices, proponere in animum induxit. Privatim deſiderantibus ſe accommodabit.

Matthæus Fremling, philoſ. theor. prof. reg. & ord. Pſychologiam publicè, horâ a. m. VIII. tradet. Privatam operam præceptis logicæ, & ontologiæ, hora p. m. II. III. impendere ſtatuit. Neque vero ñs deerit, qui celeb. Kantium philoſophantem audire velint, ſummam libri, qui inſcribitur *Critik reinen Vernunfs* propoſiturus.

Chriſtopherus Porath, ſubcenturio & paleſtræ academiæ præfectus, ſpondet ſe libenter, ſatisfacturum omnibus iis ex ſtudioſâ juventute, qui ſuam in arte nobili arma feliciter tractandi, & ſtrenuè vibrandi expetunt manuductionem.

UNIVERSITY OF UPSALA.

Petrus Nicolaus Chriſtiernin, phil. et I. U. Doctor, logices et metaphyſices profeſſor, &c. &c. Fundamenta et elementa theologiæ naturalis, methodo theo-

thico-

lecturers are generally abſolved in the ſpace of half a year; ſo that there are two courſes in the whole year. The firſt courſe begins on the 1ſt of February and concludes on the 16th of June; the ſecond commences the 1ſt of October and ends the 16th of December.

The celebrated univerſity of Upſala was founded under the government of the adminiſtrator Sten Sture the elder, in 1346, with the permiſſion of Pope Sixtus IV. on the model of that of Bologna, and with all the privileges of the univerſity of Paris. The muſes of Upſala betook themſelves to flight at the Reformation, with the prieſts of the Roman Catholic religion, but were invited back by Guſtavus Vaſa, who conferred on the univerſity

thico-polemicâ publicis lectionibus hoc anno tradere conſtituit; privatam quoque operam auditoram defideriis accommodabit.

Nicolaus Riſtél, artis ſaltandi magiſter, muſicos ad ſonos docebit juniores non modo apté componere pedes, ſed et decoros geſtus corpuſque habitum politiorem induere.

UNIVERSITY OF ABO.

Gabriel Ericus Haartman, M. D. med. pract. profeſſ. &c. &c. Medicinam popularem publicis lectionibus ea explicare conſtituit methodo, ut non minus artis ſalutaris alumnis, quam etiam aliis earum rerum curioſis fiat utilis: privatim autem, pathologiam generalem, et ſpecialem alternis pertractabit horis.

Georgius Danet, linguæ Gallicæ magiſter, diebus mercurii et ſaturni hora II. p. m. librum cui titulus Les Avantures de Telemaque, publice interpretabitur: ſtudioſis privatim in linguâ Gallicæ inſtitutionem deſiderantibus haud defuturus.

Olavus Levin, artis ſaltatoriæ magiſter, operam ſuam in arte ſaltandi expetentibus facilem et indefeſſum ſe præbebit ducem.

Johannes Thorberg, director muſicæ et organi ad templum cathedrale Aboenſe, muſicam publicis concentibus, diebus mercurii & ſaturnii, horâ III. p. m. habendis docebit: privatam quoque inſtitutionem expetentibus ſuam haud denegabit operam.

where

where he received his education to many additional privileges, and endowed it ſo liberally, that he has been juſtly called its ſecond founder. Beſides erecting a large building at his own expence, he ſettled on the univerſity his patrimonial eſtate of Vaſa, by which donation the ſalaries of the profeſſors were augmented, and one hundred and fifty ſtudents maintained. His example was followed by his ſucceſſors, as well as by private individuals; and as the funds have become more conſiderable, the number of ſcholars ſupported by them has encreaſed in proportion. It reflects great credit upon this univerſity, that the profeſſors faithfully apply the revenues to the objects of their original deſtination, viz. the improvement and diffuſion of knowledge. At the head of the univerſity is a chancellor, who is always a perſon of the firſt rank and conſequence, and generally one of the royal family. The dignity is conferred by the election of the profeſſors, and confirmed by his majeſty. The chancellor regulates and explains the ſtatutes, compoſes any material differences or diſputes that may happen, and delivers all petitions and meſſages from the univerſity to the king. In his abſence, his place is ſupplied by the archbiſhop of Upſala. From the body of the profeſſors, or from thoſe of them that are capable of the office from their ſituation in the univerſity,* is annually choſen a *rector magnificus*, who is a ſpecies of magiſtrate that can puniſh the ſtudents for ſmall delinquencies by fine or impriſonment, and whoſe juriſdiction over them extends ſix leagues around the city. The profeſſors are exceedingly numerous.

* Theſe are called viri rectorales.

merous. In the branch of theology there are ſix profeſſors, three aſſiſtant profeſſors, and three private teachers or *magiſtri docentes*: of law, two profeſſors and two aſſiſtant profeſſors: of medicine, three profeſſors and two aſſiſtant profeſſors: of philoſophy, ten profeſſors and twenty aſſiſtant profeſſors: of genteel exerciſes, ſeven under the name of *artium equeſtrium et caltiorum magiſtri*, viz. a riding maſter, a French maſter, a dancing maſter, a drawing maſter, a muſic maſter, a fencing maſter, and a maſter of the German and the Engliſh languages. Concerning ſome of the profeſſors of Upſala, I believe the following information may be relied upon:

Neikter, royal profeſſor of eloquence and poetics, has the reputation of having read and remembered an immenſity of hiſtory without being a good hiſtorian. He can read and remember, but not digeſt and combine. He has adopted the philoſophy of Kant, and is a zealous propagator of the new doctrine.

Afzelius, profeſſor of chemiſtry, is in Sweden eſteemed a fine genius, but ſaid to be extremely indolent. He is one of the ableſt ſupporters of the antiphlogiſtic chemiſtry.

Aurivillius, librarian and profeſſor of humanity, or *literæ humaniores*, is remarkable for the exceſs of his bigotry, and the impediments he conſtantly endeavours to raiſe, as far as his opportunities and abilities extend, to the advancement of knowledge.

In direct oppoſition to Aurivillius, ſtands Tingſtadius, D. D. profeſſor of oriental languages, who has laboured with conſiderable ſucceſs to introduce into the univerſity liberal ſentiments on ſubjects of religion.

Chriſtopher

Chriſtopher Dohl, profeſſor of Greek, learned in his profeſſion, and a man of fine taſte: he is eſteemed one of the beſt latiniſts in Sweden.

Abraham Almquiſt, teacher of theology, is a man of a very philoſophical turn of mind, and has cloſely followed the progreſs of knowledge even in her lateſt ſteps. Almquiſt, though a teacher of theology, takes great delight in propagating all the modern diſcoveries of philoſophy.

Hoijer, aſſiſtant profeſſor of moral philoſophy, is very accurately acquainted with Kant's ſyſtem, and eſteemed one of the moſt acute and diſcerning reaſoners in Sweden. He has publiſhed a book to ſhew the poſſibility of conſtructing philoſophical ideas, and thus forming an univerſal language.

In the catalogue of their lectures at Upſala for 1795, I noticed that Mr. Hoijer undertook to unfold the principles of moral obligation—*fundamenta philoſophiæ morum exponere conabitur*. In the ſame catalogue Daniel Boethius, profeſſor of ethics and politics, engages to explain the fundamental principles of moral philoſophy, and to give a philoſophical account of moral ſentiments.* The attention that is paid to moral philoſophy, and in general to pſychology, in the univerſity of Upſala, will not appear leſs manifeſt from an advertiſement by the aſſiſtant profeſſor of moral philoſophy, Mr. Steinhammer, who intimates that he means to aſſume for the theme of his lectures, *the hiſtory of man*. Nothing can be

* Fundamenta philoſophiæ moralis eruet, ideas morales philoſophicè enodatas exponet.

more

more profound than on the ſubject of ethics to take a general view of the ſentiments, paſſions, and principles of mankind, as unfolded and diſplayed in hiſtory, the great theatre of diſſection in moral anatomy.

The profeſſorſhips of Upſala are in the gift of the king. The ſalaries annexed to them are from ſeventy to one hundred pounds per annum. During each term the profeſſors give four public lectures in the week gratis, and the ſame number of private lectures; for the latter they are paid by the ſtudents, though the money that is given is very trifling. A profeſſor who has continued in office for thirty years is allowed to retire with the title *emeritus*, and enjoys his ſalary during life. In former times the univerſities often were crouded with thouſands of ſtudents: even ſo late as the year 1730, that of Upſala contained above two thouſand. It is a ſtriking proof of ſome great revolution in the ſentiments, views and purſuits of the Swedes, that the annual number of ſtudents at Upſala does not now on an average exceed five hundred. They do not inhabit any diſtinct colleges, there being no buildings for their accommodation, but lodge, as at Edinburgh and Glaſgow and ſome other proteſtant univerſities, in the town. They attend the lectures which are given by the ſeveral profeſſors either at their own houſes, or the public halls appropriated to ſuch purpoſes. Beſides the royal ſtipendiaries or penſioners, or, as they are called, *burſars*, there are other poor ſtudents, who are aſſiſted in their expences by funds eſtabliſhed by private perſons, but generally allotted to family names, or the natives of particular pro-

vinces. The higheſt of theſe ſcholarſhips amount to the value of fourteen or fifteen pounds per annum. The ſtudents of Upſala are not given to riot and rudeneſs, but in general purſue their ſtudies with decency and diligence. This univerſity is not without juſtice accounted the firſt ſeminary of the North, and has produced from time to time men eminent in every branch of the ſciences. The famous botanical garden is ſmall, but laid out with judgment.

The univerſity of Abo was founded in 1640, by queen Chriſtina, and endowed with the ſame privileges as that of Upſala. Of theology there are three profeſſors, and one aſſiſtant profeſſor: of law, one profeſſor: of medicine, three profeſſors, and two aſſiſtant profeſſors: of philoſophy, nine profeſſors, and three aſſiſtant profeſſors. In the faculty of theology there are, beſides the profeſſors, two teachers, or *magiſtri docentes*; in that of philoſophy, beſides the profeſſors, nine teachers. Of elegant and genteel accompliſhments, there are four profeſſors, or *artium cultiorum magiſtri*, viz. a French maſter, a dancing maſter, a fencing maſter, and a muſic maſter.

On the Swediſh univerſities in general, it is to be obſerved, 1ſt, That the number of profeſſors, aſſiſtant profeſſors and teachers, called *magiſtri docentes*, bears a greater proportion, if I am not miſtaken, to the population of Sweden (which does not exceed three millions) than that of any other country in Europe, to the number of its inhabitants. 2dly, That although polemical divinity and the logics of Ariſtotle, with correſponding and nugatory diſputations,

putations, ſtill maintain their ground, yet much of induſtry and genius are employed in the cultivation of real ſcience, and the purſuit of objects which are of great importance and utility. 3d. That a very proper degree of eaſe and familiarity appears to ſubſiſt between thoſe who teach and thoſe who are taught; and that the former are ever ready and deſirous of conveying information in the moſt perſpicuous and effectual manner to their auditors: they invite them to ſtate their doubts and difficulties, to put queſtions, and even to name any author they wiſh to be explained, or ſubject they wiſh to be diſcuſſed.* 4th. It is peculiar, as far as I have been informed, to the Swediſh univerſities, to admit fencing and dancing into the number of the polite or liberal arts. In this the Swedes are in the right. Both are evidently reducible to principles and theory, and can therefore claim the title of art. The dignity of dancing, which may juſtly be reckoned among the imitative arts, as well as muſic and painting, is very ably maintained and illuſtrated by the late celebrated Dr. Adam Smith, in his poſthumous Eſſays on Philoſophical Subjects. It is obſerved by the Doctor, among other particulars on this ſubject, that the connect-

* In almoſt all the advertiſements in the annual catalogue we meet with ſuch declarations on the part of the profeſſors as theſe: "Privatim ea tractabit quæ "ſtudiis auditorum convenerint"—"Privatam operam auditorum deſideriis ac-"commodabit"—"Nec non deſideriis commilitonum in cæteris ſtudii hiſtorici "locis ut poterit, privatim ſatisfaciet"—"In explicatione ſacri alicujus libri "hiſtorici, quem adpetierint auditores, ſtudioſæ juventuti inſervire conabitur"—"Auctorem Græcum, quem deſideraverint futuri auditores, explicabit"—"Che-"miam docens, deſideriis hon. commilitonum, omni, qua poteſt, diligentiâ et "fidelitate, ſuam accommodabit operam," &c. &c.

ing principle between muſic and dancing is what the ancients called rythmus, or what we call time and meaſure. 5th. There are few if any countries in Europe in which eminence in literature and ſcience has been ſo much noticed by the court as in Sweden. The order of knighthood and other marks of diſtinction have been beſtowed on different profeſſors to a degree of almoſt profuſion. In general the literary character in Sweden is held in high reſpect and eſtimation. It is an object of ambition with men of buſineſs in eaſy and proſperous circumſtances, and even with the nobility and gentry. Here it may be mentioned that Guſtavus III. towards the end of the year 1778, conducted the prince royal, the preſent king of Sweden, to the univerſity of Upſala, and aſſiſted at all the public, and the greateſt part of the private exerciſes performed by the young prince during a ſtay of ſix weeks. The ardour and ſucceſs with which he applied to his ſtudies at the early age of eight or nine years, was highly gratifying to the king, who, in order to familiarize him with the people, whom he was born to govern, and to give him an early knowledge of the kingdom, had already accompanied him over ſeveral of the provinces.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER IX.

The annual Exhibition of Pictures at Stockholm—Academy of Painting and Sculpture—Account of ſome diſtinguiſhed Painters, and their Productions—Some Works of the Dilettanti.

THE exhibition of pictures at Stockholm every year, in the month of February, is a ſubject of elegant amuſement as well as inſtruction. It is open to every one, and nothing is paid for admittance. Here the gentlemen and ladies of Stockholm aſſemble in crowds, in order to encourage, by their approbation and applauſe, the efforts of genius. It is no ſmall praiſe to ſay of this collection, that it is well worthy to be ſeen by foreigners of every country as well as Swedes. Here is perceived, at one view, the ſtate of the arts in Sweden; and you are enabled not only to form ſome opinion of the powers of the artiſts, but alſo of the general taſte and judgment of the nation. Every one declares his ſentiments with regard to the pieces without reſerve, though there be always ſome lady or gentleman who takes the lead, and directs the general tone of praiſe or cenſure. What is not a little curious, the painters themſelves are frequently preſent, and very buſily employed in attempts to guide the public judgment. I noticed one artiſt

artiſt who forced the attention of the whole company to his own picture, and talked about it to every one, and of nothing elſe. He was a moſt conſtant and punctual attendant at the exhibition, and regaled himſelf with the eulogiums which he extorted from others. This exhibition is at the houſe appropriated to the academy of painting and ſculpture. There are nine profeſſors belonging to this inſtitution, and about four hundred ſtudents. The academy diſtributes annually three firſt-rate and three ſecondary prizes. The pupils who ſhew the greateſt proofs of genius are ſent to travel in France and Italy at the expence of the academy. There are five apartments, ſmall in ſize, and very low in the ceiling, in which the pictures are put up with but little grace or propriety. In the middle one, which may be called the antichamber, becauſe it is through this that you enter into all the reſt, the pictures ſuppoſed to poſſeſs the leaſt merit are generally placed, and alſo the drawings and deſigns of the ſcholars. The chamber on the left ſide of the hall as you enter, is deſtined for the reception of the firſt-rate pieces, as that on the right of the antichamber is for that of ſtatues, baſſo-relievos in plaiſter, and the deſigns of the ſcholars. The ſecond room is filled with a confuſed aſſemblage of paintings, deſigns in architecture, plans of public edifices, with which are intermixed a number of portraits and landſcapes. Near to this apartment is a cabinet containing plans and models of new inventions, or projects in mechanics. In this exhibition, not only the productions of native Swedes are diſplayed, but alſo thoſe of ſuch members as are foreigners by birth: moreover, the works of the *agréés*, or

aſſociates,

aſſociates, who, though they belong to the academy, have not the ſame privileges as members; and of ſtrangers, that is to ſay, perſons who, without being either in the number of members or aſſociates, obtain leave from the preſident to exhibit their performances. The number of pieces diſplayed at the exhibition of 1800, which I ſaw, amounted to one hundred and twenty-nine. Every picture was numbered, and the name of the painter marked at the bottom. Towards the cloſe of the exhibition, which laſts only fifteen days, a printed catalogue is publiſhed, in which all the pictures are arranged according to their order and degree: 1ſt. Of Swediſh members; 2d. Of foreign members; 3d. Of the aſſociates; 4th. Of *tilläggning*, or artiſts, who were allowed to exhibit their works without belonging to the academy. I ſhall obſerve the ſame order while I take a view of the moſt diſtinguiſhed pieces, or thoſe that drew moſt attention in this exhibition, whether juſtly or otherwiſe.

SWEDISH MEMBERS.

Mr. John Tobie Sergel, whoſe name is well known among artiſts in all parts of Europe: he is to be reckoned among the firſt-rate ſculptors, and the only one in the North of any great merit. He ſtudied at Rome, and is one of thoſe who has done moſt honour to the modern ſchool: he has executed ſeveral works of great value. Not long ago he finiſhed a ſtatue in bronze of Guſtavus III.; it is of coloſſal ſize, and to be placed on a pedeſtal in front of the caſtle, oppoſite to the bridge that leads to the admiralty.

miralty. His moſt admired production is his groupe of Cupid and Pſyche, which combines the utmoſt beauty of form, and the moſt exquiſite expreſſion of ſentiment, in the happieſt manner: it is deſigned for the palace of Haga. Unfortunately Mr. Sergel is no longer to be numbered among the artiſts of Sweden: he has wholly retired from buſineſs, and from the world. Overpowered by a deep melancholy, he lives in a ſtate of perfect ſolitude, and is not to be ſeen by any one beſides his own domeſtic.

Mr. Charles Fred. Breda. This portrait painter muſt be known in England: he was brought up to the art under Sir Joſhua Reynolds, and is ſtill an imitator of his manner. Mr. Breda is happy in ſeizing and taking likneſſes: he poſſeſſes the art of giving an hiſtorical air to his pictures by means of the acceſſories of architecture, landſcape, and drapery. His colouring is brilliant, but perhaps too glowing: his attitudes are ſometimes a little unnatural and overſtrained, his deſigns not always correct, nor is his drapery eaſy. He works a great deal, and very rapidly: his pictures are often, ſtrictly ſpeaking, nothing more than ſketches. In his perſonal deportment and manners he is very mild, amiable, and not in the leaſt aſſuming. He has a collection of pictures, ſome of them very fine ones.

Mr. Nic. Lafrenſen, a painter well known in France, where many of his pictures have been engraved. He is a very pleaſing artiſt, and happy in his ideas; but ſomewhat of a manneriſt of the French ſchool.

Mr. Elias Martin, a landſcape painter: he would alſo be an hiſ-

torical

torical painter; but we may apply to him the ſaying, "*ne ſutor ultra crepidam*. Before the arrival of Mr. Belanger, he was the firſt landſcape painter in Sweden. I ſpeak only of his pictures in oil colours; for, as to the art of painting in body colours, he is ignorant of even its firſt principles. Of all the artiſts that I know in Europe, Mr. Martin is the happieſt in his folly. He is ſo perfectly ſatisfied that he is the firſt painter in Europe of every kind, that the love of glory and renown, a paſſion attended often with many painful anxieties and ſtruggles, occaſions no other than the moſt pleaſing ſenſations in his breaſt. If he ſhould but touch the canvas with his pencil, there would preſently appear, as he imagines, ſome embryo of ſuperior excellence. He makes no ſcruple to inſinuate very plainly, that his own productions are the firſt in the univerſe: he puts them on a level with thoſe of the admired artiſts recorded in hiſtory; and concludes his panegyric on himſelf by obſerving, that he alone of the great painters is now alive, and deploring the loſs that threatens the arts by his advanced age. He is a good-natured man, and as much diſpoſed to be complaiſant to others, as well pleaſed with himſelf, if they will only hear his prattle. There are ſome who not only have patience to do this, but find great amuſement in it; while others of a more ſerious and ſevere turn either deſpiſe his vanity, or lament the weakneſs of human nature. His laſt productions are in every reſpect execrable; but he has done ſome things which, for ſo northerly an artiſt, poſſeſs conſiderable merit. The chief excellency of his beſt pieces conſiſts in an agreeable harmoniouſneſs

thoughout the whole, and a nice attention to the laws of perſpective.

Mr. Deprez, firſt achitect to the king, well known, as I ſhould ſuppoſe, in England, where he paſſed ſome time, and where he excited ſome attention. He perhaps is the greateſt ſcene painter for the decoration of theatres in Europe. He has a thorough knowledge of hiſtorical ſcenery, the contraſt of light and ſhade, the effects produced by the different lights of the ſun and the moon by perſpective, and various machinery. The richneſs of his mind and imagination is aſtoniſhing. His maſterpiece is the decorations for the opera of Guſtavus Vaſa: in this, the ſtyle of architecture for the palace of Chriſtierna is well conceived; the different decorations of the tents of Guſtavus and Chriſtierna are ſuperb. The dreams of Chriſtierna are worthy of all the ſtores of his own exuberant fancy. His greateſt difficulty is to moderate and bring down the conceptions of his warm and highly exalted imagination to the ſmallneſs of the ſize of the theatre of Stockholm. It was impoſſible to fix on a man more calculated to give ſatisfaction to Guſtavus III. or between whoſe mind and that monarch's there was greater affinity. The king, when in a high-ſpirited and communicative mood, was wont to ſay to thoſe about him, "There is nobody who has any real fancy but myſelf and "Deprez." It is much to be regretted that this great man, ſo well fitted to diſplay to advantage his genius and talents on an extenſive theatre, ſhould be buried in Sweden, where, no longer employed in the theatre, he ſcarcely can contrive to exiſt, and where

where ignorance, and cabal, and envy, have borne him down, perhaps never to riſe again. If Guſtavus III. had lived, this man would have probably coſt Sweden ſeveral millions of rix-dollars. It was he who finiſhed the deſign of the new palace at Haga; the groundwork alone, on which it is now built, has coſt an enormous ſum to ſo poor a country. Project was concerted after project, and the reſtleſs and exalted imaginations of thoſe two enthuſiaſts (the king and Deprez) muſt have exhauſted the public treaſury. Mr. Deprez, perceiving the impoſſibility of finding employment in a country where the finances are ſo narrow as in Sweden, and where every thing is under the reign of intrigue, gives himſelf up for the preſent to the reveries of imagination; and the greater part of his deſigns in architecture are truly caſtles in the air. He amuſes his leiſure with drawing plans of edifices, more magnificent and ſumptuous than the ancient pyramids of Egypt: he forms projects of piles and monuments a thouſand times more expenſive than any recorded in the hiſtory of the world. He has lately conceived the idea of a pyramid, the baſe of which could not be fixed anywhere elſe than in the deſerts of Arabia, in which ſtatues of all the great men in the world, of every poſſible kind of celebrity or diſtinction, are to be depoſited. He admits himſelf, that in order to carry this deſign into execution, it would be indiſpenſibly neceſſary for all ſovereign powers to join in one ſociety, or club, for defraying the expences. Mr. Deprez is alſo an hiſtorical painter; but his colours are wretched. I have ſeen ſeveral of his pictures of naval engagements; in ſome of which you perceive nothing

but a ſingle ſhip in front of the piece, which covers and hides all the others.

Mr. Lewis Belanger, firſt painter to the king of Sweden. After reſiding ſeveral years in Italy, where he applied himſelf to the ſtudy of architecture, he went to and continued ſome time in England; where there is ſtill to be ſeen a number of prints taken from his pictures in body colours. He is a landſcape painter of no ſmall merit: his touch is light, and produces a pleaſing effect: he has a good imagination, and makes an excellent uſe of body colours. There is no artiſt in Sweden that excels him in his line of painting. He is now engaged in a very intereſting work, namely, *a picturesque Tour through Sweden*, which is engraved under his own direction, and of which ſome plates have already appeared at Stockholm, by an engraver whom he carried with him thither, of the name of Cordier. On his arrival in Sweden and preſentation to the king, he was honoured with the title of firſt painter in his majeſty's ſervice; and, I believe, he has obtained permiſſion to make drawings of all the ports in Sweden; which will form a very curious collection, eſpecially as they are done by the hand of ſo excellent an artiſt. His diſtinguiſhed merit, ſoon after his arrival, excited envy and raiſed him a number of enemies.

Mr. Weſtmüller. There was nothing of this painter in the exhibition of the year mentioned (Feb. 1800); but there had been an Ariadne by him in that of the preceding year., which was much talked of, and confirmed the reputation he had already acquired.

He

He is the beſt portrait painter in Sweden after Breda, and in the minuter parts of execution he ſometimes ſurpaſſes him. The beſt of his portraits that I have ſeen, is that of Governor Uglaſs. Although the figure be ſtiff, as indeed all his pictures are, it poſſeſſes much animation and expreſſion. The hands are done with the pencil of a maſter; and the velvet drapery is worthy of the ſatin of the Chevalier Vanderwerf. His Ariadne of 1799 was unnatural, ill deſigned, and finiſhed in a ſlovenly and taſteleſs manner. The nakedneſs of the figure was the only circumſtance that flattered the eye, and drew the applauſe of the ſpectators.

FOREIGN MEMBERS.

The works of foreign members do not, ſtrictly ſpeaking, enter into an account of the ſtate of the arts in Sweden; but as they appeared at the exhibition, and as ſome of thoſe members are reſident in Sweden, I cannot well avoid ſaying ſomething of their productions.

Mr. Inel, director of the royal academy of arts at Copenhagen. This painter makes a noiſe in the North that is incredible: he is looked upon as a prodigy. Of portrait painters he is conſidered as the *ne plus ultra*, and his pictures are regarded as models of the art. The encomiums beſtowed on this man appeared to me ſo exceſſive and diſguſting, that I cannot help introducing in this place the remarks that were made on him by a great Italian connoiſſeur, who had ſeen many of his productions, and was perfectly acquainted with his manner. "Inel," obſerved he, "is

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" in my eyes of all portrait painters the moſt diſagreeable. In re-
" ſpect of deſign, he is indeed tolerably correct; but in every
" other particular his inferiority is decided. His compoſitions are
" without taſte; his light and ſhade bad; his colours cold, hard,
" and without the leaſt gradation of ſhades; the effects diſagree-
" able; his reſemblances, though happy enough and to common
" eyes ſtriking, are nevertheleſs wholly devoid of dignity, and his
" contours ſharp and harſh: he is but very imperfectly acquainted
" with the laws of perſpective; his figures are mean, and his dra-
" pery ſtiff and conſtrained."

Mr. Lampi. The Duke and Ducheſs of Sudermania being at Vienna, had their portraits drawn there by this artiſt, and ſent them to the exhibition at Stockholm. Although Lampi had not by any means beſtowed particular pains on theſe pictures, and though they even ſhew marks of conſtraint and hurry, it may be confidently affirmed that theſe two portraits eclipſed all the reſt in the exhibition, and proved the ſtriking difference between the ſouthern and northern ſchool. There was in theſe two pictures a noble majeſty and a happy imitation of nature. The compoſition was pleaſing, the colouring vivid, the effect ſenſible, the light and ſhade ſoft, the contours well rounded, and the ſtrokes of the pencil drawn with the exact aim of an artiſt.

Mr. Antony Boſſi, a miniature painter. He is a native of Venice, and came to reſide at Stockholm only for a time; during which he finiſhed a conſiderable number of portraits, all of them of great merit.

Among

Among the works of the dilettanti there were ſome engravings by Count Mörner—they were happy imitations of the German ſtyle of *mezzo tinto*, which he learnt during his reſidence at Vienna, where he was in the ſuit of the Duke of Sudermania.

Mademoiſelle de Pollett, maid of honour to the queen dowager, had a landſcape done in Indian ink, ſketched in a very free and happy manner. This lady is one of the beſt educated and moſt accompliſhed women I met with in the Swediſh capital. She is a native of Stralſund in Germany.

The two rivals in landſcape painting are, Colonel Skiöldebrand and Baron de Geer; but there was none of their productions this year in the exhibition. My praiſes of the firſt might have the appearance of partiality, and I therefore will abſtain from them, however juſtly they might be beſtowed; but I may venture to ſay of the ſecond, that he has a delicate and pleaſing pencil; that he draws the figures in a lively and correct manner, though he has not ſufficiently ſtudied the great maſters to have learnt the true ſhades of perſpective, and the general effect of the whole.

I ſhall enter no farther into any details; and, indeed, there would not be much to add on this ſubject which could intereſt the reader. I will only make this general obſervation, that under the preſent reign the fine arts in Sweden are far from being in a flouriſhing condition. True genius and talents are not employed, but, on the contrary, diſcouraged. Sergel, we have already mentioned, has retired under the preſſure of a deep melancholy. Deprez is no longer engaged at the theatre; and Belanger

too

too has fallen a victim to jealouſy, envy, and intrigue. In a word, the arts are reduced to a ſtate of monopoly, in the hands of a few who know how to impoſe upon the minds of their countrymen, by the machinations of ſecret cabal and open quackery.

CHPATER

CHAPTER X.

Tribute of Praiſe to Mr. Coxe for his Account of Sweden; and for his Eagerneſs in collecting Information—A Hint given to Travellers—The general Impreſſion made on the Author's Mind, of the State of Sweden in reſpect to Arts and Sciences; Commerce and Manufactures; and civil Freedom—The Uſe of Sledges in Winter, and the Advantages derived from it—The different Kinds of Sledges; and the Roads made through the Snow—Departure from Stockholm; and Journey to Griſtehamn—Paſſage by Haga and Ulrieſdal—Deſcription of the Gardens of Haga in Winter—Face of the Country between Ulrieſdal and Griſtehamn—Foxes met with on the Road—Want of Inns or Public-Houſes—Proviſions of the Peaſants that attend Travellers—Character, Manners, and domeſtic Condition of the Peaſantry.

IF there be no intellectual ſubject, however abſtract and refined, but muſt neceſſarily be attentively ſcrutinized and viewed in various relations; how much more indiſpenſibly requiſite is it, that diverſity of tours and extenſive travels ſhould be undertaken by different individuals, for the diſplay of manners, the knowledge of arts, and that the book of nature, beſt inſtructor, ſhould be wide ſpread before mankind. Amidſt the vaſt and almoſt infinite

variety of matter preſented to our obſervation, we naturally attach ourſelves to what is congenial with our own habits of thinking, and our own purſuits and ſtudies. It ought not to be the deſign or attempt in any new pilgrimage of this kind, to ſuperſede and render uſeleſs all that has preceded it. The regions of Scandinavia certainly open a wide field for various ſpeculations and diſcoveries. The mines of Sweden have given birth to many literary compoſitions, and will yet indubitably produce many more. Its navigation, commerce, revenue, population, government, police, and internal regulations for the good order and convenience of ſociety; the public works, edifices, and charities; the ſtate of agriculture, the army, the navy, and the various other objects that conſtitute the proper ſubjects of hiſtorical works and ſtatiſtical enquiries—all theſe particulars have been detailed with tolerable accuracy by many travellers before me. It would not be conſiſtent with my plan to give a ſtatiſtical account of Sweden, even could I preſume or ſuppoſe that my reader would thank me for being more minute in my information than Mr. Coxe has been; or be pleaſed, were I to ſwell my pages with more copious extracts from the Swediſh hiſtory than this traveller has furniſhed. It is a juſt tribute to Mr. Coxe, and which I readily acknowledge, that he at this day poſſeſſes in Sweden the reputation of an indefatigable enquirer and collector of every poſſible information on a variety of ſubjects. Whatever he could learn from any one he noted down in his journal, under ſome head or other. If among the maſs of materials which he thus gathered, there were ſome that had

had already met the public eye, it muſt not be thought that Mr. Coxe publiſhed them again as a plagiariſt or compiler; but it aroſe from his not knowing, or from overlooking their exiſtence in the literary world. The republication of them, by confirming what others had noticed before him, gave an additional value to his work, which is one of the richeſt miſcellanies that ever has appeared under the name of travels. This teſtimony to the induſtry of Mr. Coxe, it would be ungenerous in me to withhold; although I, as well as all other travellers who came after him, ſuffered, in thoſe places where he had been, ſome trifling inconveniencies from the ardour of his zeal in purſuit of information. I was told by different perſons, that his eagerneſs and impatience to obtain inſtruction on ſeveral points of public œconomy, for the improvement of his ſtatiſtical tables, was ſo great, that he was always ready to put queſtions, but never to anſwer any. The Swedes naturally expected that a ſtranger would contribute to their entertainment, as they were willing to facilitate his labours: but Mr. Coxe, I was told, declined all free and communicative converſation, and was intent ſolely on his own private views of making a publication. He did not heſitate to requeſt gentlemen to collect materials for him, and to favour him with their ſtatements in writing. All this might be excuſable and even laudable in a philoſopher, yet it was not quite ſatisfactory to the people whom he viſited: they wiſhed to have their own curioſity in ſome meaſure gratified, by an interchange of information: they expected ſomething more from the reverend Engliſh traveller

than to undergo a mere examination. Theſe things were frequently mentioned to me, as ſoon as the firſt civilities of reception had paſſed, and I conſidered it as a premonition to myſelf, and did not fail to take the hint, as my readers will readily conceive and believe, from the paucity of ſtatiſtical ſubjects that I have touched on, in compariſon with the various and preciſe details of Mr. Coxe. This hint, which I took myſelf, I throw out for the benefit of future travellers.

The ſtate of Sweden, and particularly that of the capital, has left this general impreſſion on my mind, that a greater progreſs has been made in the ſciences and arts, both liberal and mechanical, by the Swedes, than by any other nation ſtruggling with equal diſadvantages of ſoil and climate, and labouring under the diſcouragement of internal convulſions and external aggreſſions, from proud, powerful, and overbearing neighbours. Their commerce, all things conſidered, and their manufactures are in a flouriſhing ſtate. The ſpirit of the people, under various changes unfavourable to liberty, remains yet unbroken. The government is ſtill obliged in ſome degree to reſpect the public opinion. There is much regard paid to the natural claims of individuals; juſtice is tempered with mercy, and great attention is ſhewn in their hoſpitals and other inſtitutions to the ſituation of the poor and helpleſs. From the influence of the court among a quick, lively, and active race of men, private intrigue and cabal have, to a great degree, crept into every department of ſociety; and this is what I find the greateſt ſubject of blame, or of regret, in ſpeaking of that country.

country. The reſources of a ſtate are chiefly three; population, revenue, and territory. The firſt two are not conſiderable in Sweden; the laſt is great in extent, though not ſo in its immediate value: but the vaſt extent of territory itſelf is an object of importance. Land and ſeas, however ſterile and rude, conſtantly become more fertile and uſeful, as the courſe of ſcience and art advances—as the French ſay, "Toujours va la terre au-"bon." Art ſubdues natural difficulties and diſadvantages, and finds new uſes for materials of every deſcription: and, finally, it may be juſtly obſerved that, in the very rudeneſs of the natural elements, and in their poverty, the Swedes have a pledge and ſecurity for civil freedom and political independence.

It is deemed a very great calamity in Sweden, and one not leſs heavy than a bad harveſt, if the winter be ſuch as to prevent the uſe of ſledges, becauſe it is by means of theſe that bulky commodities, namely, iron, wood, grain, and other articles, are conveyed from one place to another. Winters, however, ſo mild that ſledges cannot be uſed, ſometimes will happen; then the communication is limited, and commercial intercourſe confined: for the highways are by no means ſufficient for the purpoſes of travelling and carrying goods; whereas, with a ſledge you may proceed on the ſnow, through foreſts and marſhes, acroſs rivers and lakes, without any impediment or interruption. It is on account of this facility of tranſporting merchandize over the ice, that all the great fairs in Sweden and Finland are held in the winter ſeaſon. Nor is it an uncommon thing for the peaſants to undertake journeys,

neys, with whatever they have got for the market, of three or four hundred Engliſh miles. They have been known to travel with their ſledges about two hundred miles in ten or twelve days. As there is generally no other mode of travelling in Sweden, or in the North, during the winter, than by means of ſledges, the variety of them is ſo great, that when the time arrived deſtined for us to purſue our journey northward, our variety of choice of ſeveral kinds was not a little perplexing. They were not only different in ornament and form, but alſo in their conſtruction and manner of accommodating the traveller. When a perſon undertakes a long journey in an unuſual manner, his prudence never ſuffers him to believe that enough has been done; and embarraſſments are encreaſed through an over anxious multiplication of the meaſures that are adopted for avoiding them. But there were really ſome circumſtances that obliged us to be very circumſpect and nice in our ſelection of the ſledge that was to carry us in our intended expedition from Stockholm towards the north. The great and covered ſledges, built like the body of a carriage, and placed on ſkates, are certainly the warmeſt, the moſt ſociable, and in every reſpect the moſt commodious; but theſe were by no means adapted to a journey through Finland. Here it is neceſſary to have ſledges of a certain determinate width, ſuch as can be drawn by one horſe along the narrow roads, or rather in the ruts or tracks of this country. In many places the roads are bordered on both ſides by ſnow to the height of five or ſix feet, forming as it were two ramparts, between which you

are

are to move along. The little open ſledges, ſuch as are uſed in Stockholm on parties of pleaſure, and made commonly in the ſhape of a cockle-ſhell, ſeemed upon the whole moſt eligible, on account of their lightneſs, and their being ſufficiently narrow for the ſtraiteſt paſſages. But theſe ſledges, though convenient enough for a ſmall excurſion, become very fatiguing on a long journey; and in one of ſeven or eight hundred Engliſh miles would have been altogether inſupportable. Without ſome particular precaution, in adding a prop or ſupport behind, it was impoſſible to reſiſt the impulſe, or guide the movement and direction of the ſledge, in uneven parts of the road. During the whole of our journey we were under the neceſſity of being our own drivers. There were at the time ſome Finland ſledges to be had at Stockholm, which might have ſerved equally for Sweden and Finland; but theſe vehicles, uſed only in travelling through that part of Sweden which lies between Stockholm and Finland, were drawn by particular ſets of horſes. The peaſants, unaccuſtomed to ſuch ſledges, refuſed to furniſh their horſes, as their harneſs did not ſuit them. They complained that they were clumſy, awkward, and heavy, becauſe they did not reſt on iron but large wooden ſkates. As there is but very little travelling in Finland, the regulations for the roads are not ſo ſtrict as in Sweden. The ſnow commonly lays deeper, and the inhabitants, accuſtomed to the form of their own ſledges, ſee no reaſon for any road wider than the only carriages they are acquainted with require.

The method of making roads, adopted in all the diſtricts of the North

North in which I have travelled, after a great fall of ſnow, is to place a ſort of triangle of wood, the baſe of which may be about eight or ten feet, on rollers, where the paſſage is to be, and to have this frame drawn forward along the middle by horſes or oxen, the acute angle or apex of the triangle being placed foremoſt. In this manner the ſnow lying on the middle of the way is puſhed to the ſides, and a paſſage is thus rendered eaſier for the ſledges that come after. But this triangle removes or diminiſhes only the quantity of ſnow in the middle of the road, ſo that the travellers who afterwards may paſs that way make another rutt or furrow, proportionable to the width of their ſledges: and as the ſecond follows always the track of the firſt, this furrow, in the courſe of time, and by new falls of ſnow accumulating on the ſides, becomes ſo deep, that it forms a kind of caſe which admits only ſledges of the ſame dimenſion. Having weighed all theſe difficulties, and every obſtacle and diſadvantage we could think of, we reſolved to content ourſelves with ſuch ſledges of the peaſants, as we might obtain from one poſt-houſe to another, and to travel in this manner as far as Abo, where we might purchaſe Finland ſledges in the country itſelf, and purſue our journey in our own equipage, ſuch as it would be, in order to avoid the inconvenience of ſo frequently moving and ſtowing our luggage. We flattered ourſelves that this expedient was the beſt, and ſet out perfectly ſatisfied with the reſolution we had taken.

We departed from Stockholm on the 16th of March, 1799, at ſeven o'clock in the morning, paſſing through the north gate.

Enveloped

Enveloped in pelices of Ruſſian bears' ſkins, our heads cloſely covered with fur caps, and our hands in gloves lined with wool or fur, we found no reaſon to complain of cold the whole way to Griſlehamn, where we arrived on the ſame evening. The ſky was covered with clouds and dark, and conſequently our journey was diſmal, or at leaſt gloomy. The firſt object that preſented itſelf to our view on leaving Stockholm behind us, was the gardens of Haga, already mentioned, with the lake which in the ſummer ſeaſon forms ſo great an embelliſhment to this delightful retreat. It was no longer that delicious paradiſe, that pleaſure ground tufted with trees in leaf, and adorned with ſhrubberies and coppice wood, through which the winding paths, under a pleaſing ſhade, imperceptibly conducted the viſitor to ſome fountain, or to the vaulted roof of ſome little temple, or ſome cabin, the aſylum of ſimplicity and love: it was the ſkeleton, or, more properly, the inanimated carcaſe of that garden. All the fine contrivances of art which were made uſe of to captivate the eye, and to fill the mind with a pleaſing ſenſation of ſurprize and ſatisfaction; thoſe means that were called in aid to improve the beauty of the place, and to conceal its faults; all theſe ſecrets by which you were kept in a ſtate of ignorance of what could afford no gratification if known or ſeen, were now, by the mercileſs ſeverity of the ſeaſon, cruelly revealed. A ſad and mournful nakedneſs was viſible throughout the whole. Thoſe temples and retreats to which you were led through many meandering ways and turns, and which were ſo ſituated as to deceive the imagination by the idea that they were

placed at great diſtances from each other, were beheld heaped together in one crowd. There appeared no marks of regular combination and deſign: all was a dead confuſion.

Having traverſed the lake of Haga, we paſſed very near the country houſe of the queen dowager Ulrica, called Ulrickſdale. It had been before the ſeat of Count John de Gardie, but was purchaſed by the queen dowager Ulrica Eleanora in the reign of Charles XI. In this retreat the queen enjoyed that peace and tranquillity which uſually fly from the palaces of the great. Beyond Ulrickſdale nothing occurred that was in the leaſt intereſting the whole way to Griſlehamn, a diſtance from Stockholm of not leſs than ſixty-nine Engliſh miles. The face of the country cannot be ſaid to be either flat or hilly: it is unequal ground, but riſing and falling by gentle ſwells. The eye, fatigued by the dazzling whiteneſs of the ſnow, repoſes itſelf with pleaſure on the dark green of the pines, which are often met with throughout the whole of the journey. What amuſed us moſt was to ſee foxes here and there ſtanding or walking about on the highway without any apparent ſolicitude for their ſafety. We were aſtoniſhed to find this quadruped ſo incautious, and ſo devoid of that ſagacity and prudence which is the characteriſtic of the ſpecies. The buſineſs for which thoſe animals come to the highway we diſcovered to be no other than to eat the new-dropped dung of the horſes that paſſed. If, while they were in ſearch or poſſeſſion of this, a ſledge happened to go by, they would only leap over to the other ſide of the ditch, and turn about and keep a conſtant eye on the equipage,

equipage, or whatever or whomſoever they conſidered as objects of juſt ſuſpicion and danger, without moving farther off, even though a man ſhould come within thirty or forty paces of them. If the ſledge ſtopped, then they would immediately betake themſelves to flight; but if any one whiſtled, the fox would ſtop ſhort, turn about, and for a few ſeconds look the perſon in the face. A ſportſman, having a fowling piece with him in his ſledge, would have an opportunity of taking a tolerably ſure aim, and doing great execution among them merely by means of whiſtling. We were not without fowling pieces; but our pelices, a certain lazineſs and heavineſs with which we were overwhelmed (the effect, no doubt, of the climate), and the conſtraint we were under from the neceſſity of accommodating our poſture to the movement of the ſledge, all conſpired to make ſhooting at a mark no eaſy matter. Beſides the report of our pieces might have frightened the horſes.

It is alleged by ſome, that the foxes of the North are of a different ſpecies from thoſe of England, and that thoſe of the latter are larger, more cunning, and wilder than thoſe of the former. Without pretending to decide this queſtion, I ſhall only obſerve, that the prudence of northern animals is often overcome by extreme hunger, and that the cold in Great Britain is never ſo long nor ſo intenſe as to reduce them to ſuch extremity. As to their ſtopping ſhort in the midſt of their flight, on hearing a whiſtle, I could never learn or conjecture what ſenſation or idea this could excite in them. Being to them an unuſual ſound, they

no doubt conſidered it as a warning of danger. The country people have a ſuperſtitious notion, that foxes and wolves are offended at being called by their ſpecific names, and that they take vengeance for this inſult on their poultry, and other domeſticated animals; for this reaſon they call the foxes *brown legs*, and the wolves *grey legs*, in the ſame manner as the people of Sumatra give good names to the tyger.

During the whole of this route from Stockholm to Griſlehamn, the traveller muſt not think of ſtopping either to eat or ſleep; I mean to ſay, that there are no inns to be met with as in other parts of Europe. He muſt carry his proviſions along with him, for the poor peaſants have ſeldom any thing beſides bread and milk, or ſometimes ſalted proviſions, not always agreeable to travellers. Their bread is flat round cakes, made for the moſt part of barley or rye, with holes in the middle, through which a ſtring paſſes for ſlinging a number of them on their backs when they go abroad to the woods, or fields, or a-fiſhing. Potatoes are by no means common among them, which is owing, I imagine, to the difficulty they find to keep them from the froſt in winter. The philoſophical œconomiſts, numerous as they are in Sweden, have not yet, it would ſeem, diſcovered themſelves, or at leaſt not taught the country people, that this uſeful root may be ſecured from the keeneſt froſt, by lodging it in cavities dug to a ſufficient depth in the earth; but the peaſants, though poor, feel no preſſing wants that are not gratified. Beſides bread and milk, they have in their ſtores ſalted or ſmoked meat, as well as fiſh, and occaſionally

caſionally even beer and brandy; but theſe laſt are objects of luxury, and neceſſary only to factitious appetites: both they and their children are well fed. Their houſes and manner of clothing ſufficiently protect them from the ſeverity of the cold; their fire-ſides are always well provided with wood, and their apartments warm and comfortable. The traits of innocence, ſimplicity, and contentment, which, on entering any one of their cabins, you may perceive in their countenances, form a picture that muſt greatly move the ſenſibility of a ſtranger, and intereſt the feelings of his heart. The little ſports of the children, the ſkipping and friſking of dogs and cats, the crackling made by faggots and logs of wood, the modeſt and trembling ſong of the cricket, recalled to my mind, with great pleaſure, four charming lines of Gold-ſmith, which exhibit an exact likeneſs of what I actually ſaw:

Around in ſympathetic mirth,
Its tricks the kitten tries;
The cricket chirrups in the hearth,
The crackling faggot flies.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XI.

Griſlehamn—The Paſſage acroſs the Gulf to Finland dangerous in Summer to navigate, and in Winter frozen over ſo as to bear Sledges —The Author's Journey acroſs the Ice. Difficulties attending it, and Adventures that happened—Seals, or Sea-Calves, living on and under the Ice. Manner of hunting them—The Iſles of Aland. Some of them mentioned by Name: the Fortreſs of Caſtleholmen —Anecdotes from a Converſation with a Peaſant.

GRISLEHAMN is a ſmall poſt town, where all travellers ſtop in their way to or from Sweden or Finland, whether in ſummer or winter. The navigation of the ſtraits here is extremely dangerous, as well as diſagreeable. There is only one paſſage for large veſſels, and the mariners are always in terror of ſtriking on the rocks which are every where ſcattered in this formidable ſea. In winter a paſſage is very rarely attempted, but when the whole ſurface is frozen to ſuch a degree of ſolidity as to bear a ſledge. When this is not the caſe, as ſometimes happens during a mild and open winter, thoſe perſons who have occaſion to travel from Sweden, either to Finland or Ruſſia, are under the neceſſity of going by the way of Torneå all round the gulf of Bothnia. Griſlehamn is not remarkable on any account, except its being a place of

Travelling on the Ice over the Gulf of Bothnia to Finland.

of rendezvous for travellers by ſea or land. It has neither commerce, manufactures, nor houſes fit for the accommodation of ſtrangers. It conſiſts of nothing more than the poſt-maſter's habitation, which is built of brick; and a number of wooden cabins around it, which are occupied by peaſants. The harbour of Griſlehamn, though not very capacious, is excellent, particularly for ſmall veſſels. Two tongues of land jetting into the ſea ſecure it from both the eaſt and weſt winds, while a ſmall iſland, ſituated nearly in the middle between them, breaks the force of the waves that are driven againſt the coaſt by the winds which agitate the whole maſs of the Bothnian ſea in its direction from the North. On one of theſe tongues of land a telegraph is erected on a commanding height, which is the only one that I ſaw in Sweden. It was conſtructed by order of Guſtavus III., during the war in Finland, on a plan given by Mr. Edelkrantz, member of two Swediſh academies above noticed. This telegraph, by intermediate ſtations, communicates with the capital as well as Finland, at times when, from the weakneſs of the ice, a paſſage over the gulf is impracticable.

When a traveller is going to croſs over the gulf on the ice to Finland, the peaſants always oblige him to engage double the number of horſes to what he had upon his arriving at Griſlehamn. We were forced to take no leſs than eight ſledges, being three in company, and two ſervants. This appears at firſt ſight to be an impoſition on the part of the peaſants; but we found, by experience, that it was a neceſſary precaution. The diſtance acroſs is forty-three

three Engliſh miles, thirty of which you travel on the ice without touching on land. This paſſage over the frozen ſea is, doubtleſs, the moſt ſingular and ſtriking ſpectacle that a traveller from the South can behold. I laid my account with having a journey more dull and unvaried than ſurpriſing or dangerous. I expected to travel forty-three miles without ſight of land over a vaſt and uniform plain, and that every ſucceſſive mile would be in exact uniſon and monotonous correſpondence with thoſe I had already travelled; but my aſtoniſhment was greatly increaſed in proportion as we advanced from our ſtarting-poſt. The ſea, at firſt ſmooth and even, became more and more rugged and unequal. It aſſumed, as we proceeded, an undulating appearance, reſembling the waves by which it had been agitated. At length we met with maſſes of ice heaped one upon the other, and ſome of them ſeeming as if they were ſuſpended in the air, while others were raiſed in the form of pyramids. On the whole they exhibited a picture of the wildeſt and moſt ſavage confuſion, that ſurpriſed the eye by the novelty of its appearance. It was an immenſe chaos of icy ruins, preſented to view under every poſſible form, and embelliſhed by ſuperb ſtalactites of a blue green colour.

Amidſt this chaos, it was not without difficulty and trouble that our horſes and ſledges were able to find and purſue their way. It was neceſſary to make frequent windings, and ſometimes to return in a contrary direction, following that of a frozen wave, in order to avoid a collection of icy mountains that lay before us. In ſpite

of

of all our expedients for diſcovering the eveneſt paths, our ſledges were every moment overturned to the right or the left; and frequently the legs of one or other of the company, raiſed perpendicularly in the air, ſerved as a ſignal for the whole caravan to halt. The inconvenience and the danger of our journey were ſtill farther encreaſed by the following circumſtance. Our horſes were made wild and furious, both by the ſight and the ſmell of our great pelices, manufactured of the ſkins of Ruſſian wolves or bears. When any of the ſledges was overturned, the horſes belonging to it, or to that next to it, frighted at the ſight of what they ſuppoſed to be a wolf or bear rolling on the ice, would ſet off at full gallop, to the great terror of both paſſenger and driver. The peaſant, apprehenſive of loſing his horſe in the midſt of this deſert, kept firm hold of the bridle, and ſuffered the horſe to drag his body through maſſes of ice, of which ſome ſharp points threatened to cut him in pieces. The animal, at laſt wearied out by the conſtancy of the man, and diſheartened by the obſtacles continually oppoſed to his flight, would ſtop; then we were enabled to get again into our ſledges, but not till the driver had blindfolded the animal's eyes: but one time, one of the wildeſt and moſt ſpirited of all the horſes in our train, having taken fright, completely made his eſcape. The peaſant who conducted him, unable any longer to endure the fatigue and pain of being dragged through the ice, let go his hold of the bridle. The horſe relieved from this weight, and feeling himſelf at perfect liberty, redoubled his ſpeed, and ſurmounted every impediment. The ſledge, which

he made to dance in the air, by alarming his fears, added new wings to his flight. When he had fled to a conſiderable diſtance from us, he appeared from time to time as a dark ſpot which continued to diminiſh in the air, and at laſt totally vaniſhed from our ſight. Then it was that we recognized the prudence of having in our party ſome ſpare horſes, and we were fully ſenſible of the danger that muſt attend a journey acroſs the gulf of Bothnia without ſuch a precaution. The peaſant, who was the owner of the fugitive, taking one of the ſledges, went in ſearch of him, trying to find him again by following the traces of his flight. As for ourſelves, we made the beſt of our way to the iſles of Aland, keeping as nearly as we could in the middle of the ſame plain, ſtill being repeatedly overturned, and always in danger of loſing one or other of our horſes; which would have occaſioned a very ſerious embarraſſment. During the whole of this journey we did not meet with, on the ice, ſo much as one man, beaſt, bird, or any living creature. Thoſe vaſt ſolitudes preſent a deſert abandoned as it were by nature. The dead ſilence that reigns is interrupted only by the whiſtling of the winds againſt the prominent points of ice, and ſometimes by the loud crackings occaſioned by their being irreſiſtibly torn from this frozen expanſe; pieces thus forcibly broken off are frequently blown to a conſiderable diſtance. Through the rents produced by theſe ruptures, you may ſee below the watery abyſs; and it is ſometimes neceſſary to lay planks acroſs them, by way of bridges, for the ſledges to paſs over.

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The only animals that inhabit thoſe deſerts, and find them an agreeable abode, are ſea-calves or ſeals. In the cavities of the ice they depoſit the fruits of their love, and teach their young ones betimes to brave all the rigours of the rudeſt ſeaſon. Their mothers lay them down, all naked as they are brought forth, on the ice; and their fathers take care to have an open hole in the ice near them, for a ſpeedy communication with the water. Into theſe they plunge with their young, the moment they ſee a hunter approach; or at other times they deſcend into them ſpontaneouſly in ſearch of fiſhes, for ſuſtenance to themſelves and their offspring. The manner in which the male ſeals make thoſe holes in the ice is aſtoniſhing: neither their teeth nor their paws have any ſhare in this operation; but it is performed ſolely by their breath. They are often hunted by the peaſants of the iſles. When the iſlanders diſcover one of thoſe animals, they take poſt, with guns and ſtaves, at ſome diſtance from him, behind a maſs of ice, and wait till the ſeal comes up from the water for the purpoſe of taking in his quantum of air. It ſometimes happens, when the froſt is extremely keen, that the hole is frozen up almoſt immediately after the ſeal makes his appearance in the atmoſphere; in which caſe the peaſants fall on him with their ſticks, before he has time with his breath to make a new aperture. In ſuch extremities the animal diſplays an incredible degree of courage. With his formidable teeth he bites the club with which he is aſſaulted, and even attempts to attack the perſons who ſtrike him; but the utmoſt efforts and reſiſtance of theſe creatures are not much

dreaded, on account of the ſlowneſs of their motions, and the inaptitude of their members to a ſolid element.

After conſiderable fatigue, and many adventures, having refreſhed our horſes about half way on the high ſea, we at length touched at the ſmall iſland of Signilſkar. This iſland preſents to the view neither wood nor lawn, and is inhabited only by ſome peaſants, and the officer of the telegraph which is ſtationed here for keeping up a correſpondence with that of Griſlehamn. It is one of thoſe little iſlands ſcattered in this part of the gulf, which collectively bear the name of Aland. The diſtance from Griſlehamn to Signilſkar, in a ſtrait line, is five Swediſh miles, which are nearly equal to thirty-five Engliſh; but the turnings we were obliged to make, in order to find out the moſt practicable places, could not be leſs than ten Engliſh miles more. All this while we were kept in anxious ſuſpence concerning the fate of our fugitive horſe, and entertained the moſt uneaſy apprehenſions that he was either loſt in the immenſity of the icy deſert, or buried perhaps in the watery abyſs. We were preparing to continue our journey through the iſles on the ice, and had already put new horſes to our ſledge, when we ſpied, with inexpreſſible pleaſure, the two ſledges returning with the fugitive. The animal was in the moſt deplorable condition imaginable: his body was covered all over with ſweat and foam, and was enveloped in a cloud of ſmoke. Still we did not dare to come near him; the exceſſive fatigue of his violent courſe had not abated his ferocity; he was as much alarmed at the ſight of our pelices as before; he

ſnorted

ſnorted, bounded, and beat the ſnow and ice with his feet; nor could the utmoſt exertions of the peaſants to hold him faſt have prevented him from once more making his eſcape, if we had not retired to ſome diſtance, and removed the ſight and the ſcent of our pelices. From Signilſka we purſued our journey through the whole of the iſles of Aland. In different parts of Aland you meet with poſt-houſes, that is to ſay with places where you may get horſes. You travel partly by land and partly over the ice of the ſea. The diſtance between ſome of theſe iſlands amounts to no leſs than eight or ten miles. On the ſea, the natives have uſed the precaution of fixing branches of trees, or putting ſmall pines along the whole route, for the guidance of travellers in the night-time, or directing them how to find out the right way after falls of ſnow.

Between the two ſtations of Heraldſby and Skorpas is ſituated on a rock the famous fortreſs of Caſtelholmen, every where encompaſſed by water, except on one ſide, where it communicates with an iſland by means of a narrow tongue of land. This caſtle is now in a ſtate of ruin, and will perhaps never be reſtored. It was built by Binger Jarl, adminiſtrator of Sweden, and father of king Weldeman. It became afterwards the reſidence of the governors of Aland, and continued ſo till the year 1634. During the reign of Eric of Pomerania, this caſtle was inhabited by a foreign lady of the name of Yda. Under Eric Puke it was, in conſequence of his orders, reduced by John Folkénſen. It was given in 1505 by the regent Suante Sture to the Chevalier Eric, ſon to John Vaſa, and

father

father of Guſtavus I. During the war between Suante Sture and John II. king of Denmark, it was burned, but rebuilt, and ſerved as a priſon to the unfortunate Eric XIV. in the year 1571. In the year 1556 it was granted, with all the iſles of Aland in fief, to duke John. After this, namely in 1603, it devolved to Catherine, widow of Guſtavus I. In 1644 that part of the caſtle, which was conſtructed of wood was deſtroyed by fire. Then it became the property Queen Ulrica Eleanora, the conſort of Charles XI. and ſince that it has been burned and rebuilt ſeveral times.

Between the iſles of Vergata and Kumlinge we had for our guide a peaſant of about fifty-five years of age, who aſtoniſhed us with the great freedom of his converſation, as well as the good ſenſe of his obſervations. Very different from other ruſtics, who never open their lips, nor diſcover any ſparks of curioſity about any thing, he made many enquiries, and with great politeneſs, concerning our native country, the nature of its government, its ſituation, climate, natural produce, and ſeveral other ſubjects; and his queſtions ſtruck us as being greatly above the common underſtanding of perſons in his condition of life. Being informed that we were from Italy, he expreſſed much aſtoniſhment: he had heard, he ſaid, that there was a war in Italy, and that there was in that country a warrior who ſtruck terror into all the world; alluding no doubt to Bonaparte. We aſked him how many miles he conceived Italy to be diſtant from Aland? He ſaid he could not tell; but that he imagined it to be a great deal farther off

than

than Denmark. When we told him that it was three hundred Swediſh leagues beyond Denmark, he looked at us with amazement, and, after a ſhort pauſe, ſaid, that he could not imagine from what motives we could have come to his country at an expence of ſo many rix dollars for poſt-horſes. His particular amuſement in converſation ſeemed to be to ſpeak ill of the clergy, whom he turned into ridicule with a very happy vein of humour. He was a great partizan of Guſtavus the Third, with whom he ſaid he had converſed, and who not unlikely may have diverted himſelf with this peaſant. He never quitted his favourite topic of abuſing the clergy, but conſtantly returned to it from any digreſſion which we had indulged. "Guſtavus III. (ſaid he) was a "great man and a great king. Still, however, he did not make "any pretenſions to half the reſpect and veneration that are ex-"acted by our clergy. The clergy preach humility, but are them-"ſelves proud. Our pariſh prieſts enjoy good ſtipends in the moſt "tranquil eaſe: and that they may be diſturbed by nothing, they "hire a poor clergyman to preach a ſermon for them on Sundays, "while they themſelves do nothing but ſit ſtill on a ſeat, and re-"ceive the homage of the peaſants as they paſs by them. This "idleneſs of theirs, I can aſſure you, is not to be imputed to any "want of capacity or knowledge: for when any queſtion ariſes "concerning the payment of tythes, or of a portion of our hard "earnings, they immediately ſhew themſelves to be the moſt "learned and acute men in the world. They are not only ready "reckoners, but have at their fingers ends all the laws, ordinances

"and

" and ſtatutes of the kingdom." I repeat here what was ſaid by the peaſant almoſt word for word, as it may give ſome idea of the way of thinking on this ſubject that prevails among that claſs of people in this part of the country. What encreaſed our ſurpriſe at this man's intelligence was, that he had received no education, nor ever read any books; what he ſaid was merely the reſult of his own obſervation. Our philoſopher intermixed in his converſation ſome meteorological obſervations, and predicted a very late ſummer from ſome ſpots he had remarked in that great luminous belt which goes acroſs the heavens, and is called the Milky-way. He related ſome anecdotes of the laſt war in Finland, and told us that the battle of Hogland was not ſo deciſive in favour of the Swedes as it might have been, had every thing been executed in due manner: but Prince Frederic could not ſend the flotilla to ſuccour the fleet, which was ſhort of ammunition. This is one of the moſt remarkable circumſtances in the whole hiſtory of the war; and of the truth of it I was well aſſured afterwards by perſons who had the beſt opportunities of knowing the fact, and whoſe veracity was above all doubt. The following was the ſituation of affairs: The land army was poſted at Laviſa, under the joint command of Prince Frederic and General Toll. When the battle began, Prince Frederic, knowing that the Swediſh fleet was in want of ammunition, was deſirous of ſending it a ſupply by the flotilla which lay at anchor in the road of Laviſa, and gave orders to General Toll to that purpoſe: but the general refuſed to execute the prince's intentions; and when the latter was proceeding

ing to enforce obedience, the general pulled out of his pocket a paper in which he had been inveſted privately with the excluſive command of the flotilla. By this paper the prince learnt how little confidence was placed in him by the king. Had the Ruſſians held out but one hour longer, the whole Sewdiſh fleet muſt have been taken. The two fleets were equally crippled, and it was the retreat of the Ruſſians alone that conſtituted the Duke of Sudermania the hero of that naval engagement.

CHAPTER XII.

An Account of the Iſles of Aland—Their Situation, Name, and Hiſtory—Pariſhes and Civil Regulations—Soil and Produce—The Inhabitants; their Manners and Cuſtoms—Natural Hiſtory: Quadrupeds, Birds, amphibious Animals, Fiſhes, Inſects, Plants, and Minerals.

THE iſle of Aland, with its dependant iſlands, to the number of eighty, moſt of them ſmall, but inhabited, are ſituated between the gulfs of Bothnia and Finland, in latitude 59 degrees 47 minutes, to 60½ degrees north, and longitude 36 degrees 57 minutes, to 39 degrees and 47 minutes.* In reſpect to its extent, Aland conſtitutes the ſmalleſt of the poſſeſſions belonging to the crown of Sweden, containing only eleven ſquare Swediſh miles, or about ſeventy-ſeven Engliſh, being in length about twenty Engliſh miles, and in breadth about ſixteen.

The name of Aland ſeems to be derived from the ancient Gothic A, which ſignifies water, and the word land; ſo that Aland together is the ſame in meaning as iſland. This appears to be the moſt natural etymology, though various writers have

* From the meridian of Ferro. Reckoning from the meridian of London, the longitude would be from 19 degrees 17 minutes, to 22 degrees 7 minutes eaſt.

indulged

indulged themſelves in conjectures, for which there is always room in enquiries concerning the origin of places, and the derivation of their names.

Aland has been ſuppoſed anciently to have been governed by its own monarchs; but however that may be, it is certainly known that ſince the fourteenth century it has made part of the biſhoprick and government of Abo, with the exception that in the year 1743 Aland and the other iſlands ſubmitted to Ruſſia, and ſwore allegiance to the Czarina, but were ſoon after reſtored to Sweden by the treaty of Abo. Theſe iſlands in former times frequently ſuffered from the invaſions of the Ruſſians, and the inhabitants had been forced to fly from their houſes and fertile plains. But in 1718 a congreſs was held here for the reſtoration of peace, by which the enjoyment of tranquillity was ſecured to them.

Aland and the ſeveral iſles contain eight pariſhes, each of which has a church. Beſides theſe places of worſhip, there are ſeven chapels. The names of the pariſhes are Sund, Saltvick, Finſtrom, Hammarſand, Jomala, Lemland, Foglo, and Kumblinge.

The Laplanders and Fins were undoubtedly the earlieſt inhabitants of theſe iſlands, and their reſidence here is plainly to be traced in the names of places which ſtill remain, and were in all likelihood given by them; ſuch as Lappo, Lapbole, Lapwaſs, Finby, Finſtrom, Finno, Finko, and Finholm. In the pariſh of Sund is a natural grotto formed in the ſide of a mountain, about ſix yards in length and three in breadth, and from four to five yards in height. During the invaſion of the Ruſſians in 1714 it ſerved

as a place of concealment; and undoubtedly, in ancient times, this as well as many other caves were the habitations of the aborigines of the iſland.

Several lakes are met with in theſe iſlands, and but one rivulet, which however is ſufficient to work two mills, one of which is a ſaw-mill. The mountains are numerous; the higheſt of them is called Ulfdubs Klint.

Haga is a royal farm; Kermundo or Germundo, and Soneroda, are ſtyled *ſaterier*, or free towns, being exempted from all impoſts.

Aland has a judge who conſtantly reſides there, and likewiſe a phyſician, who beſides acts as an apothecary when neceſſity requires. A public ſchool was eſtabliſhed here ſince 1639, but it has been ſhut up ſince 1791. The revenues which the crown of Sweden receives from Aland and the other iſlands, amount annually to nineteen thouſand nine hundred and eighty-ſix rix dollars. Two hundred and ninety-eight ſailors are regiſtered in theſe iſlands, which coſt the king of Sweden about five thouſand rix dollars yearly.

Aland contains about three thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty acres of land in cultivation, which produce rye, wheat, oats and barley in the proportion of ſeven for one. The annual growth of wheat is about twenty-two thouſand five hundred barrels. There is one pariſh which has no arable land, and in this reſpect reſembles Lapland. The inhabitants of this pariſh employ themſelves in fiſhing, and purchaſe all the corn they have occaſion for

of

of their neighbours. They catch vaſt numbers of pilchards, of which they make great profit, it being the chief traffic of theſe iſlands.

It has been long in agitation to build a city in the iſle of Aland; but the project has not hitherto been carried into execution, owing, it is ſaid, to the difficulty of chuſing a proper ſpot for it.

The uſual route from Sweden to Finland is from the poſt office of Griſlehamn in Upland, which is eleven and a half Swediſh miles, to Eckerö in Aland; and from that place acroſs the iſland to Abo, which is five miles more. A Swediſh mile makes between ſix and ſeven Engliſh miles.

In the year 1792 the number of inhabitants upon the iſland of Aland amounted to eleven thouſand two hundred and ſixty, which is upwards of a thouſand to every ſquare Swediſh mile; a very great number when it is conſidered how mountainous the iſland is. The inhabitants of theſe iſlands live to very great ages. From the year 1692 to the preſent time, nine perſons are recorded to have died at the great age of one hundred years; and perhaps the number had been found greater, had it been thought worth while to notice this particular. In 1703 there died a woman named Anna Berg, who was one hundred and nine years old: and at Kumblinge, in the year 1766, another perſon of the ſame ſex died at an age of upwards of one hundred and twenty years. One ſixth part of the inhabitants are above fifty years old; a circumſtance which affords a convincing proof of the healthineſs of the place.

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The ſea which ſurrounds the iſle of Aland is very ſeldom frozen, and was leſs ſo formerly than at the preſent time. In 1546 it was remarked as an extraordinary event, that in that year the ſea was ſo frozen as to be croſſed on the ice. It ſeems latterly that theſe ſevere froſts happened once in ten years. The winter of the year 1702 was remarkably mild, ſo that barley was ſown on the twenty-fifth of March, at which time there was plenty of paſture for cattle: conſidering its high latitude, Aland enjoys a very favourable climate.

In their manners and cuſtoms the inhabitants of Aland do not differ greatly from the peaſants of Upland. Their marriages and funerals are celebrated much in the ſame manner. In Aland they uſually marry about the middle of ſummer, and appear thereby to ſhew that they have no need to wait for the time of harveſt to enable them to ſupport a family.

The Alanders commonly uſe nouriſhing food; their bread is generally made of rye, even when the crops of that kind of corn have proved unfavourable. Freſh fiſh, and fiſh dried or ſalted, together with milk, butter, cheeſe, and fleſh-meat, are their uſual fare. They make uſe of the fleſh of ſeals, and prepare a diſh called *ſkalkroppe*, compoſed of collops of the fleſh mixed up with flour and lard, and this they reckon excellent. In their voyages by ſea they lay in a good ſtock of proviſions, and at thoſe times are not ſparing of meat and butter.

The dreſs of the Alanders is becoming. The men wear, in general, ſhort jackets, which on holidays are commonly of blue cloth.

cloth. The young peaſants commonly wear cotton ſtockings, and many of them have even watches. The women, when full dreſſed, wear a petticoat and apron of camlet, cotton, or printed linen, and ſometimes of ſilk. Their dreſs in mourning is generally of black ſilk, with a camlet petticoat. For the moſt part they wear caps, and ſeveral ſilk handkerchiefs over their necks. In their houſes they are chiefly dreſſed in clothing of their own manufacture, of which they have a variety. The married women often appear with a number of gold rings upon their fingers, and they ſeem particularly fond of wearing ſuch ornaments; yet ſilver ſpoons and goblets are leſs often ſeen in Aland than amongſt the ſubſtantial farmers in Sweden.

The dwellings of the peaſants are very neat and convenient, kept in good repair, and well lighted. They are uſually built of wood, fir, or deal, and covered with the bark of the birch tree, or ſhingles. Their out-houſes are moſtly thatched. As they have no running ſtreams and water-mills, ſcarcely any peaſant is without a windmill.

The Alanders are upon the whole an ingenious, lively, and courteous people; and on the ſea diſplay a great degree of ſkill and reſolution. As a proof of the regularity of their lives, it is only neceſſary to obſerve, that from the year 1749 to 1793, no more than ſeven criminals were capitally convicted, and within that ſpace of time only ſeven murders committed; which is in the proportion of one execution and one murder to one thouſand eight hundred natural deaths: whereas in London, during the year

1791,

1791, out of eighteen thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty who died, thirty-ſeven ſuffered under the hands of the executioner; and at Naples and in Sicily, ſix hundred murders are ſuppoſed to be perpetrated one year with another in a population of five millions. From the year 1749 to the year 1773, there were born in Aland one hundred and nineteen illegitimate children; from 1774 to 1790, the number of theſe was one hundred and twenty-ſix; which is in the proportion, for the firſt twenty-five years, of one baſtard child to eighty-three legitimate children; and for the following ſixteen years, of one to fifty-three. The latter proportion, however, is in ſome meaſure a proof of an increaſe of moral depravity; though it be trifling when compared with other places, ſuch as Stockholm and Abo, where one-ſixth part of the children born are illegitimate; and if we take the births through Sweden we ſhall find the proportion to be one to forty-five.

The people of Aland are far from being ſuperſtitious; but, for what reaſon I know not, they are accuſed of being of a litigious diſpoſition.

No bears or ſquirrels are to be found in theſe iſlands; and the Elk, which formerly was uncommonly numerous, is now no longer ſeen in them. The animals chiefly found are wolves, (which are ſaid to croſs the ſea from Finland, when it has happened to be frozen over) foxes, martens, hares, ermines, bats, moles, rats, mice, &c.; otters are but rarely met with: on the coaſt are found ſeals, &c.

Of birds there are above a hundred different ſpecies found in theſe

theſe iſlands. Amongſt the ſea fowl are the colymbus, the pelican, four different ſorts of gulls, the didapper, the eider, and more than a dozen other of the tribe of ducks.

Of amphibious animals are three ſpecies of lizards, or newts, frogs, &c. Amongſt the fiſh are found ſalmon, trout, cod, haddock, ling, perch, tench, pilchards, ſprats, together with a conſiderable number of other kinds.

The inſects found in Aland amount to the number of betwixt ſeven and eight hundred different ſpecies: among theſe we ſhall only make mention of one, and that on account of its very deſtructive qualities. You often find trees in great number which have been killed by this ſpecies of inſect; and, what is ſtill more diſtreſſing and harraſſing, houſes newly built have been known to fall into decay and ruin in a ſhort time, entirely by the devaſtation of theſe pernicious animals.

The Alanders pay no great attention to the culture of bees. Crawfiſh are not very common in theſe iſlands, and were firſt brought over by the queen dowager of Guſtavus the firſt.

The Flora Suecica reckons about ſix hundred and eighty plants that are indigenous in Aland and the neighbouring iſles; of which number one hundred and fifty are cryptogamia. Moſt of the trees common to Sweden are alſo found in Aland. Few minerals are to be met with here; and the mountains are formed chiefly of a red kind of granite.

TRAVELS

THROUGH

FINLAND.

TRAVELS

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CHAPTER XIII.

Arrival in Finland at the Town of Abo—Account of this City—The Library—The Univerſity—Admiral Heding—Farther Particulars of the Town of Abo; its Situation, Streets, Buildings—The Cathedral—The Building of the Academy—The Harbour—The Inhabitants of Abo—Their Trade and Commerce—The Caſtle, called Abo-hus.

IN our way to Abo we paſſed near the caſtle named Abo-hus, ſituated at the mouth of the river Aura, upon a cape or point of land, bounded by the water on three ſides.* The governor and biſhop, who generally reſide at Abo, happened to be abſent when we arrived; but we had the good fortune to be introduced to Admiral Heding, who received us with great politeneſs, and

* See a deſcription of it, page 214.

engaged

engaged us to paſs the greateſt part of the two days we remained at Abo in his houſe. The admiral lives cloſe to the caſtle.

We lodged at Seiſſel's, the ſign of the Victory, where our entertainment was as bad as poſſible; but we were obliged to put up with it, as there was no other houſe of the ſame kind in the place.

The library is the only thing in the town worthy the traveller's notice, though it is of no great conſequence. Among other curioſities they ſhewed me a prayer-book printed by a peaſant with wooden tablets, upon which he had cut the letters. In the ſame library there is a tolerably complete collection of Swediſh medals, ancient as well as modern. The number of ſtudents at the univerſity amounts to about three hundred. There is but one printing preſs in the town, and only two bookſellers ſhops.

Their ſchool of anatomy is in conſiderable repute: it is not likely to want ſubjects for diſſection, ſince, by a particular regulation, all ſuch perſons as hold lands or penſions from the crown are bound to leave their bodies to be diſſected at the anatomical theatre. If the ſame law had been extended to phyſicians and ſurgeons, it would not have appeared leſs rational. I made acquaintance with profeſſor Porthaan, who ſhewed us every thing of any value in the library, and with great politeneſs gave us all the information in his power reſpecting our route through Finland. He alſo made us a preſent of ſome diſſertations he had written on different ſubjects concerning that country.

Mr. Franqeu gave me a precious ſpecimen of national poetry, conſiſting

conſiſting of a little ſong compoſed by a peaſant girl, the ſervant of a clergyman, who met with a diſappointment in an aſſignation with her lover. I ſhall preſent the reader with this piece in another place, when I come to ſpeak of the genius of the Finlanders for poetry.

Admiral Heding is one of the moſt diſtinguiſhed men in Sweden for talents, in the department of the marine. His preſent majeſty does not ſeem to make a proper eſtimate of his merit, perhaps on account of the attachment he ſhewed to the Duke of Sudermania, during his late regency. The admiral's converſation is infinitely intereſting, accompanied however with a dry frankneſs of manner, which on different occaſions has been of prejudice to him at court. He is known in Sweden for his perſonal courage, for his talents, for his lively repartees and *bon mots*. He has ſerved in the French, Engliſh, and Spaniſh fleets, and ſpeaks all thoſe languages with equal fluency, beſides the Swediſh and German; the laſt is his native tongue. Guſtavus III. entertained the higheſt opinion of his character, and in conſideration of his eminent accompliſhments could forgive the frankneſs of his converſation, and even his *bon mots*, though ſometimes they were a little too highly ſeaſoned for the palate of a king. In the affair of Wiburg, when Guſtavus ſuffered himſelf to be blocked up, Admiral Heding's frigate, called *la Folle*, not being there, he told the king that he thought he ſhould henceforth name her *la Sage*; and when his majeſty demanded his reaſon—"becauſe," ſaid he, "ſhe was too wiſe to get into the ſame ſcrape with the reſt of "the fleet in the gulf of Wiburg."

The city of Abo is a Stapelſtad,* and belongs to the Lane;† that is to ſay, the government and dioceſe of Abo. It is ſituated in 60 degrees 10 minutes north latitude, upon a promontory formed by the gulfs of Finland and Bothnia. It is forty-one Swediſh miles from Stockholm, ſeventeen from Björneborg, forty-one from Waſa, ſixteen from Tavaſtehus, and twenty-two from Helſinfors. It ſtands on the ſide of the river Aurajocki, and is encloſed on all ſides by hills, being itſelf in rather a low ſituation. The river Aurajocki, near the town, is from about ſixty to a hundred yards broad; its waters are muddy and unfit for culinary purpoſes. The town, four thouſand nine hundred and forty yards in length by two thouſand four hundred and fifty in breadth, is divided into five quarters, three of which are ſituated ſouth eaſt from the river, and two to the north weſt, being joined by the communication of a wooden bridge. There are three open places or ſquares in the town, namely, the great ſquare, which is ſurrounded by different public and private buildings all of ſtone; the new ſquare, encloſed by wooden houſes, among which is a ſort of magazine, containing materials for town buildings; the other buildings are chiefly butchers' ſhops; and laſtly, church-place: contiguous to this is the academy. The ſtreets and lanes in Abo together amount to one hundred and two: the number

* In Sweden the towns are divided into Stapelſtader, which have permiſſion to trade with foreigners; Upſtader, which have no ſuch permiſſion; and Bergſtader, which are ſituated on the mountains.

† The Swediſh provinces are divided into lanes or governments, which are under their reſpective governors.

of

of houſes, including thoſe that were building, is upwards of one thouſand one hundred; which in 1780 contained two thouſand and forty-eight families. There are no fewer than five cuſtom-houſes in this city.

The cathedral church of St. Henry is covered with wood in thin plates, or ſhingles, laid one over the other. In length it is one hundred and fifty yards by ſixty-three and a-half in breadth, and ſeventy-five in height. It is the only church in Abo, and is equally appropriated for the purpoſe of public worſhip according to the Finlandiſh and the Swediſh rituals. The Swediſh congregation begin their ſervice at ſix o'clock in the morning, that of the Finlanders at nine. The tower is covered with a copper roof, and furniſhed with a clock, which is expoſed, like all objects that are raiſed high in the air, to be ſtruck with lightning: this accident having befallen it on different occaſions, it is now protected by a conductor.

The academy, conſiſting of two ſtories, is built of ſtone, with three auditories, and a chamber for the academical conſiſtory. Hard by is a ſaloon for gymnaſtic exerciſes, and over it two apartments for the library. The cathedral ſchool is not eſſentially different from other ſchools, as the buſineſs of education there is the ſame with what you find in every town, namely, a little Latin and Hebrew. The honourable appellation of *cathedral* is given to it merely becauſe it happens to be at a place which is the reſidence of a biſhop. The chemical laboratory and the diſſecting-room are included in the ſame building; one in the firſt, and the

other in the ſecond ſtory. The cathedral occupies the centre of thoſe public buildings.

The ſeat of the courts of juſtice, the houſe of the preſident, the cuſtom-houſe, the exciſe-office, the town-hall, that of the council, the repoſitory of the water-engines, and the houſe of the governor, are built of ſtone: all the reſt are conſtructed of wood.

Near Beckholmen, about three Engliſh miles from Abo to the ſouth weſt, is a ſmall but ſafe harbour, by its depth of water capable of receiving the largeſt ſhipping of the town, with every convenience for loading and unloading. The ſmaller veſſels, which draw only about eight or ten feet water, may proceed almoſt to the bridge.

The moſt ancient privileges of the city are loſt; ſuch as ſtill remain are dated from the time of John the third, 1569.

To the royal tribunal reſident here belong the governments of Abo, Tavaſtehus, and Heinola; it conſiſts of three juriſdictions, twelve territorial judges, and ten other magiſtrates.

The governor of Abo, of Bijorneborg, and of Aland, as well as the biſhop of Abo, generally live in this city.

Guſtavus Adolphus, in the year 1626, eſtabliſhed a gymnaſium for the uſe of the town. It was afterwards, in the year 1640, converted by Queen Chriſtina into an academy or univerſity, and ſhe appointed the biſhop of the dioceſe ſub-chancellor. The academies of Sweden, as has been mentioned before, have chancellors, ſub-chancellors, and pretors. The profeſſors in chemiſtry, anatomy,

anatomy, natural hiſtory and œconomics, have been more recently appointed, for they did not belong to the original inſtitution. The one laſt mentioned was ſubſtituted in the room of a profeſſor in poetry, which it was thought proper to unite with the profeſſion of eloquence. This exchange of poetry, or poetical criticiſm, for œconomics, is no unpleaſing characteriſtic of the preſent age, and a proof of the good ſenſe of the Swedes, and progreſs of real knowledge in that country. The number of ſtudents, upon an average, amounts to about five hundred and fifty, abſentees included.

The library owed its firſt exiſtence to the liberality of Queen Chriſtina: it was afterwards greatly augmented by a donation from the late General Stålhoudſke, and alſo by that of ſome individuals, among whom are particularly diſtinguiſhed Aichenholk, counſellor of ſtate, who beſtowed upon it a very conſiderable collection of books, manuſcripts, ancient coins, &c. The ſame kind of liberality was ſhown by biſhop (afterwards archbiſhop) Menander, who preſented the univerſity with a large quantity of rare books, manuſcripts, and ſome relics of antiquity. The number of books in the library at preſent exceeds ten thouſand volumes, and its annual fund for new purchaſes is about one hundred and fifty rix dollars or crowns.

The government of the town is placed in the hands of two burgomaſters (or mayors), the one of juſtice, the other of police, and ſix ſenators (or aldermen). Beſides the court of the palace, and the inferior municipal juriſdictions, there are a ſtamp-office, an exciſe-office, a poſt-office, &c.

The citizens are divided into three claſſes or ſocieties, viz. of merchants, common tradeſmen, and Finland burgeſſes. They are formed into train-bands, or a kind of militia, conſiſting of three companies of foot, each of about ſixty or ſeventy men, which are placed under the command of an officer called the town-major. The city-guard is a ſmall body of men (about thirty-five), who perform the common duties of watchmen, for the ſecurity and quiet of the inhabitants. The town has three water-engines, and, in addition to theſe, the cathedral and academy have ſix.

Here alſo is an hoſpital, where upwards of forty perſons can be accommodated. The lazaretto is intended for the ſick that belong to the government of Abo excluſively. The Magdalen hoſpital is a charitable inſtitution upon a ſmall ſcale; it has only an annual fund of three hundred rix dollars.

This city carries on a conſiderable trade, both foreign and domeſtic. In the year 1761, its export trade employed nineteen ſhips,* of which fourteen belonged wholly to the inhabitants of Abo. Their deſtination was to Peterſburg, Frederickſhamn, Wiburg, Reval, Riga, and Pernau; and their cargoes conſiſted of ſalt, tiles, iron and nails, copper, pitch, tar, pots, and deals, to the amount of three thouſand one hundred and twenty-two rix dollars thirty-two ſkillings. They likewiſe exported to Cadiz, Genoa, Liſbon, St. Ube's, Bourdeaux, and Amſterdam, iron, tar,

* Mr. Peuchet, in his Dictionary of Commerce under the word Abo, ſays, "that the ſhips with which this town carries on its trade are without decks;" a very unnacountable miſtake.

pitch,

pitch, deals, joiſts, &c. to the annual amount of ſeven thouſand one hundred and eighty-ſeven rix dollars ſeven ſkillings. The ſame year there arrived at Abo ſixteen ſhips, nine of which belonged to the citizens of the ſame place, and the whole value of imports from abroad amounted to one hundred and four thouſand nine hundred ſixty-ſeven rix dollars and ſixteen ſkillings. The articles imported were, two hundred and three thouſand one hundred and forty-three pounds of tobacco, twenty-one thouſand five hundred and twenty-three pounds of coffee, ninety-ſeven caſks of wine, one hundred and ſeventy-nine thouſand and forty-ſix pounds of raw ſugar, eighteen thouſand three hundred and ſix and a half barrels of ſalt, ſix thouſand four hundred fifty-ſeven barrels of rye and wheat, four thouſand eight hundred and twenty hundred weight of hemp, a quantity of ſpiceries, drugs, &c. amounting in all to eighteen thouſand one hundred and twenty-two rix dollars.

Abo has various manufactories: two of tobacco, one of ſugar, three of ſilk-ribbands, two of cloth and fuſtian, one of ſail-cloth, ſix tan-works, ſix of tile-kilns, two watch and clock manufactories, one paper-mill. The plantations of tobacco are an object of very great conſequence; they produce not leſs than one hundred and fifty-two thouſand hundred weight annually.

In the year 1761, the revenue ariſing to the crown from this city amounted to four thouſand ſix hundred and ſeventy-five rix dollars. The number of its inhabitants in the year 1791 was eight thouſand five hundred and four.

The

The town had been anciently built on a ſpot ſituated a quarter of a mile diſtant from where it now ſtands: it dates its origin from the introduction of chriſtianity into this country. After being nearly conſumed by fire, it was rebuilt, and put under better regulations, by the care and attention of Peter Brake, Rikſdrots and governor-general of Finland, about the middle of the ſeventeenth century. There was formerly a mint at Abo. In the time of popery this town had two monaſteries within its precincts. From the year 1714 until 1721, Abo remained under the dominion of the Ruſſians, from whom it experienced the moſt cruel treatment. In the year 1743, at the concluſion of peace between Ruſſia and Sweden, this city was finally delivered from the ſeverities and dangers to which it had been expoſed.

The caſtle, in the language of the country called Abo-hus or Abo-ſlot, is ſituated at the mouth of the river Aura, upon a cape bounded on three ſides by the water: this is one of the moſt ancient fortreſſes of the country. It was well fortified under the kings, Albrecht, Charles VIII., Knutſon, and Guſtavus Vaſa. Beſides four towers, which were deſtined to oppoſe the approach of an enemy to the harbour, it had on the ſouth ſide a high wall with a triple rampart of earth, and a double ditch. A new building has been added to the old ſtructure, but in a different ſtyle of maſonry. Abo-hus was the reſidence of Duke John, and the priſon of King Eric XIV. in the ſixteenth century. The old caſtle, which contains a church and a conſiderable arſenal, is conſtructed of brick walls extremely ſolid, and ſurrounded by ſmall earthen

earthen ramparts, erected in the year 1730. It has been ſeveral times deſtroyed in time of war by the enemy, and at other times it has ſuffered from fire. Two companies of marines are at preſent quartered in the caſtle. The other apartments are party employed as magazines for corn and gunpowder, and partly ſerve as a priſon for ſtate offenders.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XIV.

Departure from Abo—Difficulty of Travelling without a ſufficient Quantity of Snow—Tract of Country between Abo and Yervenkyle—Condition of the Peaſantry: their Mode of Life, Dreſs, and domeſtic Comforts—Meet with an old Minſtrel—Contrivance of putting a Sledge on Wheels—Deſcription of an Aurora Borealis—Reach Yervenkyle—Account of this Hamlet—Cataract near Yervenkyle: Appearance of it in Winter—Little Birds (Turdus Cinctus, Linn.) near the Cataracts in Winter—Dexterity of the Peaſants in Shooting—The Dwelling of a Peaſant deſcribed, and repreſented by a Drawing.

WE quitted Abo the 20th of March to continue our travels towards the North. In order to be free for the future from the trouble of changing our baggage at every ſtage, we had provided ourſelves with ſledges of our own. We purchaſed them at Abo, and they were of the ſame deſcription as thoſe which the peaſantry made uſe of. The winter had been extremely ſevere; but there had not fallen a great quantity of ſnow in compariſon of former years. A March ſun, and ſome days of thaw, had made it diſappear entirely in many places. The ſledge was often ſuddenly ſtopt, and the poor horſe made repeated efforts, without effect,

effect, to drag it over the naked and ſandy ſoil, which ſunk under his feet with a ſort of diſagreeable crackling noiſe. We were every moment obliged to leave the ſledge, and walk on foot till we came to ground covered with ſnow, or to a frozen lake or river. This mode of travelling at laſt became extremely tireſome, but having no alternative, we endeavoured to ſubmit to it cheerfully. In many places the ſnow had been melted on the middle of the road, but ſtill remained on the ſides and at the edge of the ditches. In thoſe ſituations not infrequently the love of eaſe induced us to try the expedient of riſking the ſledge on the edge of the ditch, which conſtantly gave way, and our indolence availed us nothing. The horſe was unable to keep in the preciſe line, and conſtantly drawing to one ſide or to the other, we were every now and then overturned in the ditch, and plunged over the ears in the ſnow.

This ſpecies of ſledge, being extremely narrow, is very eaſily overturned; but as it is at the ſame time very low, the fall is accompanied with no manner of danger, and when the road is in a proper ſtate it goes very ſteadily and ſafely; but when the ſun has begun to melt the ſnow, and this partial thaw, as often happens, is ſucceeded by a freſh attack of the froſt, then there is formed on the declivities of the road a poliſhed mirror of ice, which occaſions much trouble and difficulty to the traveller. The ſledge in deſcending never keeps in a direct line, but is hitched out of its proper direction by the ſmalleſt accident: when turned ſideways, it ſlips all at once out of the road, and is overturned

either into the ditch or againſt a tree, and ſometimes twiſts the horſe, and throws him down along with it. We were often obliged to get out of the ſledge, but our boots being too ſlippery to ſupport us on an inclined plane of ſmooth ice, we were reduced to the neceſſity of ſitting down, and of ſliding gently to the bottom of the deſcent.

In the whole way from Abo to Yervenkyle the traveller finds nothing ſufficiently intereſting to merit a place in his journal. The country is in a great meaſure flat, and it is not till he is about a mile from Yervenkyle that it begins to become ſomewhat mountainous, without however preſenting him with any remarkable proſpect.

The houſes of the peaſants are well built, and the ſtranger finds every where lodging and beds; and he may be tolerably accommodated, if he have the precaution to carry ſome conveniences along with him. You are received with great hoſpitality; the peaſant furniſhes you with whatever he has got to eat, though, in general, he can only offer you freſh and curdled milk, ſalt herrings, and perhaps, as before-mentioned, a little ſalt meat. In compariſon with thoſe who travel among them they are poor, but in relation to themſelves they are rich, ſince they are ſupplied with every thing that conſtitutes, in their opinion, good living. If they have more money than they have immediate uſe for, they lay it up for ſome unforeſeen emergency, or convert it into a vaſe, or ſome other domeſtic utenſil. You muſt not be ſurpriſed in Finland, if in a ſmall wooden houſe, where you can get

get nothing but herrings and milk, they ſhould bring you water in a ſilver veſſel of the value of fifty or ſixty ſix dollars. The women are warmly clad; above their clothes they wear a linen ſhift, which gives them the air of being in a ſort of undreſs, and produces an odd though not diſagreeable fancy. The inſide of the houſe is always warm, and indeed too much ſo for one who comes out of the external air, and is not accuſtomed to that temperature. The peaſants remain in the houſe conſtantly in their ſhirt ſleeves, without a coat, and with but a ſingle waiſtcoat; they frequently go abroad in the ſame dreſs, without dread either of rheumatiſm or fever. We ſhall ſee the reaſon of this when we come to ſpeak of their baths. The Finlanders, who accompany travellers behind their ſledges, are generally dreſſed in a kind of ſhort coat made of a calf's-ſkin, or in a woollen ſhirt, faſtened round the middle with a girdle. They pull over their boots coarſe woollen ſtockings, which have the double advantage of keeping them warm, and preventing them from ſlipping on the ice.

The interior of the peaſants' houſe preſents a picture of conſiderable intereſt. The women are occupied in teaſing or ſpinning wool for their clothing, the men in cutting faggots, making nets, and mending or conſtructing their ſledges.

We met at Mamola with a blind old man, having his fiddle under his arm, ſurrounded by a crowd of boys and girls. There was ſomething reſpectable in his appearance; his forehead was bald, a long beard deſcended from his chin, white as ſnow, and

covered his breaſt. He had the look of thoſe bards who are deſcribed with ſo much enthuſiaſm in the hiſtory of the North, not one of whom probably was equal to this poor man in ſcience or intelligence. His audience were not gathered round him for nothing: he ſang verſes, and related to them tales and anecdotes; but our preſence broke in upon the ſilence and tranquillity of the aſſembly; every body withdrew; children are children in all countries. The ſight of ſtrangers was ſuch a novelty, that, forgetting the bard, they began to mock at our figure, and to laugh in our faces, while the poor mendicant finiſhed by aſking us, in bad Swediſh, ſome halfpence or ſkillings in charity.

Night was approaching, and we were extremely fatigued with our amphibious mode of travelling, half on foot and half in the ſledge. In this emergency I had a ſtrong proof of the utility of an invention which I was ſhewn in the model repoſitory at Stockholm: it was a ſledge, with four wheels ſuſpended from its ſides, which by means of a ſpring could be placed under the ſledge, and raiſe it from the ground; and thus in a moment convert the ſledge into a ſpecies of wheel carriage.

On the 30th of March towards midnight, we were ſtill upon the road, ſuffering from a cold of 13 degrees of Celſius, when an aurora borealis preſented us with a magnificent ſpectacle, which ſerved to relieve the irkſome monotony of our journey. The heavens began to appear illuminated in the quarter of the north; preſently it aſſumed a bright ruby colour, ſuch as we have on a fine evening in Italy with the ſetting ſun, when, as Virgil ſays,

and

and as experience has often proved, a lively red as the ſun goes down prognoſticates fine weather for to-morrow. This phenomenon had juſt fixed our attention, when behold a luminous arch roſe over the pole. This was accompanied by various other light and fleeting arches, which ſhifted from place to place every inſtant: they were bounded here and there by vivid flames and torches, which iſſued in rapid ſucceſſion from the ſkies, communicating fire to the clouds in their vicinity, tinging their gilded edges, and exhibiting a picture highly intereſting to us, unaccuſtomed as we were to ſuch appearances.

At length we had the good fortune to reach Yervenkyle, a ſmall diſtrict which belongs to the univerſity of Abo, and which is let to a very obliging peaſant. This man gave us a bed-chamber, accommodated us as well as he could, and contrived, by his great hoſpitality, to render three days neceſſary repoſe very agreeable. Some detail on this ſimple and retired manſion, ſtanding at a ſmall diſtance from a beautiful caſcade (a ſituation which afforded us much intereſting amuſement, both as painters and ſportſmen), will not be diſagreeable to my curious readers, who may be deſirous to know rather minutely the particulars of this part of Finland.

Yervenkyle is a ſmall village conſiſting of three or four families, and ſituated upon a lake. During the winter ſeaſon people do not paſs through this place on their way to Waſa. Our motive in coming here was to enjoy a little reſt, as well as to have a view of a fine caſcade of very conſiderable magnitude, which is at the

diſtance

diſtance of a quarter of a league from the village. We had been extremely anxious to ſee a cataract in winter, and that of Yervenkyle did not diſappoint our expectations.

It is formed by the river Kyro, which, iſſuing from a lake of the ſame name, precipitates itſelf through ſome ſteep and rugged rocks, and falls, ſo far as I could gueſs, from a height of about ſeventy yards. The water daſhing from rock to rock, boils and foams till it reaches the bottom, where it purſues a more tranquil courſe, and after making a large circuit loſes itſelf again between mountainous banks, which are covered with fir trees. That we might have a more commanding view of the picture, we took our ſtation on a high ground, from which we had a diſtant proſpect of a large tract of country of a varied ſurface, and almoſt wholly covered with woods of firs, the pleaſing verdure of which acquiring additional luſtre from the ſolar rays, formed an agreeable contraſt with the ſnow and maſſes of ice hanging from the margin over the caſcade.

The fall preſented us with one of thoſe appearances which we deſired much to ſee, as being peculiar to the regions of the North, and which are never to be met with in Italy. The water, throwing itſelf amidſt enormous maſſes of ice which here and there have the aſpect of gloomy vaults, fringed with curious cryſtallizations, and the cold being of ſuch rigour as almoſt to freeze the agitated waves and vapours in the air, had formed gradually two bridges of ice acroſs the caſcade of ſuch ſolidity and ſtrength, that men paſſed over them in perfect ſecurity. The waves raging and foaming

foaming below with a vaſt noiſe, were in a ſtate of ſuch violent motion as to ſpout water now and then on the top of the bridge; a circumſtance which rendered its ſurface ſo exceedingly ſlippery, that the peaſants were obliged to paſs it creeping on their hands and knees.

We repeatedly viſited this picturesque caſcade, and took ſeveral drawings of it in different points of view. We always performed this walk with guns in our hands, in caſe we ſhould fall in with a hare, a fox, or a wolf, whoſe numerous tracks we met with in the woods. We ſought them a whole day in the heart of the foreſt with a hope, and not without ſome little fear, of finding theſe ferocious animals; but were continually and perhaps happily diſappointed. We diſcovered every where marks of their ravages, ſuch as the remains of animal carcaſes, but never got ſight of either. The probable cauſe of our being diſappointed in not finding game aroſe from the neceſſity we were under to ſearch without a dog. Not one was to be found in the village nor in the whole neighbourhood of Yervenkyle, which, according to the report of our landlord, was owing to the wolves ſetting upon them at the very doors, and even in the houſes themſelves of the inhabitants. Being unable therefore to find either hare, fox, or wolf, we were forced to take up with ſmaller game, and divert ourſelves by killing thoſe little birds which in the North always fly during winter near the cataract, and which I never ſaw in Italy. This ſpecies is named by Linnæus *turdus cinctus*.

Some peaſants who dwelt at a mill on the contrary ſide of the bridge,

bridge, made themſelves extremely merry at our folly in ſpending powder and lead on birds which in their minds were of little or no value. But as they remarked our ſerious air and ſeeming diſappointment at miſſing them, they began to imagine that they might oblige us by killing ſome on their ſide, and bringing them to us. Preſently we ſaw one of them fetch out his gun, and, after firing his ſhot, creep over the bridge to preſent us with one of thoſe birds. I thanked him, but obſerving that the bird wanted the head, I made him underſtand that this circumſtance rendered it not deſirable to me, and that I wiſhed to have it entire. I examined his gun, which I found had an old rifle-barrel, but of a very ſmall bore, and that it was with a ball he had killed the bird. I then ſhewed him the ſmall ſhot, and made ſigns to him that he ſhould charge his piece with this. The honeſt peaſant was not a little aſtoniſhed at the ſight of my ſmall lead, which probably he had never ſeen before. He declined my offer, and loaded as uſual with ball, but intimated to me that he would bring me another bird with its head. My friend departed; fired his piece, and brought me a bird of the ſame ſpecies, which, that he might have it as entire as poſſible, he had but ſlightly grazed under the throat. I was much ſurprized at the preciſion of his aim, but was afterwards aſſured that all the peaſants ſhoot with thoſe rifle-guns, and that they hardly ever miſs their mark; that they ſend quantities of water quails and other birds killed in this manner to Stockholm; and that they prefer this kind of fowling-piece to any other on account of its narrow bore, which

is

is found to carry to a conſiderable diſtance, and to require but a very ſmall charge.

Before taking leave of Yervenkyle we wiſhed to be made acquainted with the œconomy of our hoſt, and to aſk him ſome queſtions reſpecting the expences of his family, and the price of proviſions in this part of Finland. Wood coſts but the trouble of cutting it down and tranſporting it. The wages of day labourers are high, being from twelve to ſixteen ſkillings. Our honeſt peaſant had the appearance of being very much at his eaſe, What pleaſure it is to ſee a happy peaſantry! He had ſix cows, which had produced him as many calves, and eight goats. The ſmall twigs of the birch tree, which the goats feed on in winter, give a delicious odour to the place in which they are kept. He had beſides eight lambs and three horſes. The cows afford him a pail of milk each day. A cow is ſold for five or ſix rix dollars, a calf for two, a goat for one, a roebuck only coſts ſixteen ſkillings. Wheat does not thrive here, rye is five and a half rix dollars the barrel. We aſked him if he had ever eaten bread made of the bark of a tree, or if he had ever been obliged to feed his cows with their own dung, mixed and ſeaſoned with a little ſalt, meal and ſtraw; but he had been fortunate enough not to have experienced any of theſe hardſhips. The Darlicarlians, however, have been reduced to ſuch extremities on different occaſions.

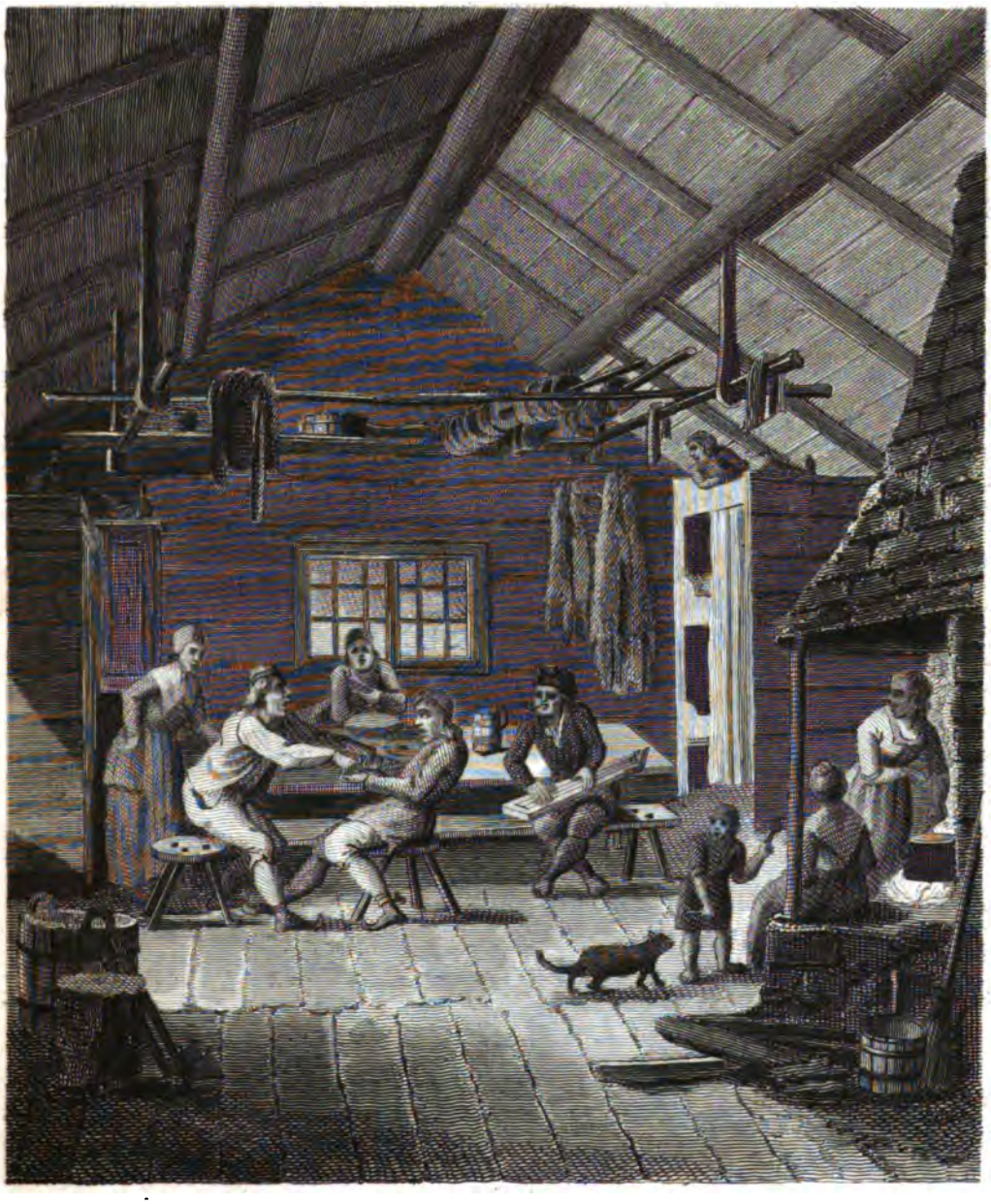
The farmſtead of this good and happy man conſiſted of the houſe, which he himſelf occupied with his family. To the right of this there was a ſmall building, expreſsly allotted to ſtrangers,

in which we lodged; to the left were places for cattle. In ſpeaking of the dwelling of a Finniſh peaſant, I think I ſhall gratify the reader by the annexed engraving, repreſenting the inſide of the houſe, where, at the ſame time, a ſcene of domeſtic amuſement is exhibited, which is not infrequent among the Finniſh peaſantry. One of the men is playing on the national inſtrument of Finland, called the *harpa* (which will be deſcribed more particularly hereafter) while two other men, being ſeated oppoſite each other, and having their hands locked together, accompany the inſtrument with their ſong and the motion of their bodies, raiſing each other alternately from their ſeats. The other part of the company enjoy the ſcene as ſpectators.

The ſimple accommodation, eaſe and contentment of this hospitable Finlander forms a ſtriking contraſt to the exceſſive luxury of the great in Europe. It ſeems impoſſible to behold the agricultural ſtate of life without feeling attachment to it; and though I am not inſenſible to the pleaſures and bleſſings which luxurious ages produce, yet when refinements in ſociety give riſe to ſuch perniſh and pernicious deſires, as induce great landed proprietors to fly from the country to overgrown cities, and forfeit their influence, independence, and eſtates, for worthleſs pageantry and frivolous baubles; and when by folly leſs excuſable than Eſau's, they involve in their ruin thouſands of induſtrious members of ſociety, we unavoidably overlook many cares and anxieties which muſt attend this artleſs ſcene of life, and forget the exquiſite enjoyments of poliſhed ſocieties.

CHAPTER

To face p. 290 Vol. I.



Extraordinary Mode of Singing by Finlanders.

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CHAPTER XV.

Departure from Yervenkyle—Progreſs through a large Foreſt—Danger to be apprehended from Wolves—Veſtiges of a Conflagration in the Wood—Frequency of theſe Conflagrations, and the Cauſes thereof—Devaſtation occaſioned among the Trees of the Foreſt by Storms—Road through the Foreſt; its Inconveniencies—Paſſage over the Ice; the Fears and Alarms with which it is attended—The generous Simplicity of ſome Peaſants who ſerved as Guides.

ON leaving the village of Yervenkyle, we came upon a wood or foreſt, famous in Finland for its ſize, and particularly its vaſt length, which is about eighty Engliſh miles. We had to traverſe it in its full extent, and I was inclined to compoſe myſelf to ſleep the whole way, in order to elude the irkſomeneſs of a road that promiſed ſo little variety, and that I might make a proper uſe of the ſullen gloom cauſed by the thickneſs of the trees. Beſides, I was confident that neither robbers nor beaſts of prey would interrupt my repoſe; the firſt being unknown in the country, and the ſecond rarely ſo preſſed with hunger as to become bold enough to ſet upon travellers. The only wild beaſts to be dreaded in this wood are the wolves, which even when ſtarving will not venture to attack a man, though they

may not ſpare his horſe. But it ſometimes happens that the wolves, in the anguiſh of famine flock together, loſe their uſual timidity, and from the confidence of aſſociation become ſo intrepid as to ſet upon the horſes yoked to ſledges. In ſuch an attack it is extremely dangerous to be overturned and left upon the road by the horſe: he naturally takes fright, and ſometimes makes his eſcape; then the wolves perceiving the traveller defenceleſs upon the ground, fall upon and devour him. Theſe accidents, however, are not at all to be apprehended by a numerous party like our's, as the wolves keep at a diſtance, and fly at the noiſe of ſledges and the voices of ſeveral people. We ſaw abundance of their tracks every where on our route, but we did not perceive a ſingle wolf, nor any ravenous animal except foxes, which uſed to look us ſteadily in the face for a moment, while we amuſed ourſelves by whiſtling after them.

The dreary ſilence and obſcurity of a thick wood, whoſe branches forming a vaulted roof, cut off the traveller from a view of the ſkies, and admit only faint and dubious rays of light, is always an impoſing object to the imagination; the awful impreſſion the mind experiences under this majeſtic gloom, this diſmal ſolitude, this deſertion of nature, is not be deſcribed. The temperature of the air is much milder in the interior of this wood than the external atmoſphere; a difference which is extremely perceptible to one who like us enters the wood after traverſing a lake or open plain. The only noiſe the traveller hears in this foreſt is the burſting of the bark of the trees, from the effect of the froſt, which produces a loud but dull ſound.

This journey was by no means ſo unintereſting as I had expected it would be. Partial fires, conflagrations and tempeſts had committed frightful ravages in the boſom of this foreſt, which preſented us here and there with exhibitions highly ſurpriſing and impreſſive. Every body has heard of the conflagrations ſo frequent in Sweden, and in the countries of the North in general. Entire mountains and tracts of ſeveral miles covered with woods, are liable to be devoured by flames. Much has been ſaid and written in order to explain the origin of thoſe fires. Some have attributed them to the rays of the ſun, which continue ſo long above the horizon: but this is fabulous and unworthy of ſerious attention. The preſence of the ſun never produced ſuch an effect, and the leſs ſo in Sweden and Finland, where the heat of the ſolar rays never riſes above fifty or ſixty degrees of Celſius, which is far below the power neceſſary to produce a conflagration. It has been inconteſtibly proved by a ſeries of obſervations, that between the greateſt ſummer's heat and the ſevereſt winter's cold known, there is only one thirty-ſecond of difference.*

There are two ſpecial cauſes of thoſe conflagrations. The firſt is ſimple and accidental, and ariſes from the careleſſneſs of the peaſants, who travel ſmoaking their pipes through this wood, where a ſpark falling upon withered leaves or plants, with the aſſiſtance of a little wind, cannot fail to excite fire and even flame. This is not all; the peaſants frequently make a fire in the wood, either to warm themſelves or to cook their victuals, and are often

* Lettres ſur l'Origine des Sciences, &c. par M. Baillie, p. 292.

too

too negligent to extinguish it entirely. The ſecond cauſe we may trace to the political conſtitution and laws of the country: generally ſpeaking, it is in the crown foreſts that thoſe conflagrations take place. In many diſtricts the peaſants obtain their wood from the king's foreſts, and pay for it a certain tax. There are preciſe limits within which they are permitted to cut, and they are liable to be puniſhed with a fine, if they are found to proceed in their operations beyond the fixed boundaries: but if a fire happens to break out in any part of a foreſt belonging to the crown, the peaſantry of that diſtrict have a right to cut down and carry home ſuch trees as have been injured by the burning. Thus the peaſants who are in want of wood, and have too ſmall a ſhare in the foreſt for the ſupply of their demands, are prompted from an intereſted motive to ſet fire to it in their own neighbourhood, being entitled to appropriate whatever trees have been touched by the flames, which are generally in ſuch abundance as to ſtock a houſekeeper with wood for four, or perhaps ſix years, according to the magnitude of the ravages which the foreſt has ſuffered. It would appear that the government, if it were aware of the circumſtance, might effectually check theſe unlawful acts; not ſo effectually by inflicting heavy puniſhments, as by ordering that the peaſants ſhould pay the ſame ſum for the uſe of the wood that might be gathered, injured by conflagration, as for that in a ſound ſtate; and that till the former was uſed they ſhould not be allowed to cut any wood in the foreſt. There may, however, be difficulties in executing ſuch meaſures, which a

ſtranger

ſtranger is not acquainted with; and hence we will not blame the government for what may not perhaps be in its power to remedy.

I ſaw in this foreſt the diſaſtrous wreck of one of thoſe conflagrations, which had devoured the wood through an extent of ſix or ſeven miles, and which exhibited a moſt diſmal ſpectacle. You not only ſaw trunks and large remains of trees lying in confuſion on the ground, and reduced to the ſtate of charcoal, but alſo trees ſtanding upright, which, though they had eſcaped deſtruction, had yet been miſerably ſcorched: others, black and bending down to one ſide, whilſt in the midſt of the ruins of trunk and branches appeared a group of young trees, riſing to replace the former generation; and, full of vigour and vegetable life, ſeemed to be deriving their nouriſhment from the aſhes of their parents.

The devaſtations occaſioned by ſtorms in the midſt of thoſe foreſts is ſtill more impreſſive, and preſents a picture ſtill more diverſified and majeſtic. It ſeems wholly inconceivable in what manner the wind pierces through the thick aſſemblage of thoſe woods, carrying ruin and deſolation into particular diſtricts, where there is neither opening nor ſcope for its ravages. Poſſibly it deſcends perpendicularly from heaven in the nature of a tornado, or whirlwind, whoſe violence nothing can oppoſe, and which triumphs over all reſiſtance. Trees of enormous ſize are torn from their roots, magnificent pines, which would have braved on the ocean tempeſts more furious, are bent like a bow, and touch the earth

earth with their humbled tops. Such as might be thought capable of making the ſtouteſt reſiſtance are the moſt roughly treated; and thoſe hurricanes, like the thunder of heaven, which ſtrikes only the loftieſt objects, paſſing over the young, and ſparing them, becauſe they are more pliant and flexible, ſeem to mark the ſtrongeſt and moſt robuſt trees of the foreſt, which are in condition to meet them with a proud oppoſition, as alone worthy of their rage. Let the reader fancy to himſelf three or four miles of foreſt, where he is continually in the preſence of this diſaſtrous ſpectacle; let him repreſent to his imagination the view of a thick wood, where he can ſcarcely ſee one upright tree; where all of them being thus forcibly inclined, are either propped by one another, or broken in the middle of the trunk, or torn from their roots and proſtrated on the ground: every where trunks, branches, and the ruins of the foreſt, interrupting his view of the road, and exhibiting a ſingular picture of confuſion and ruin.

There is a great road through the midſt of this foreſt which may be tolerably ſuited for travelling in ſummer; but the peaſants do not always continue upon it during the winter ſeaſon; for then they find no difficulty in traverſing a lake or a river, and are not obliged to follow the windings which the great line of road naturally makes, in order to avoid accidental interruptions: they conſtantly ſtudy to proceed as much as poſſible in a ſtraight line; and that they may not loſe themſelves in thoſe dark and melancholy woods, the firſt who lights upon the moſt convenient way, marks all the trees with an axe (as is done in America), in order

to

to point out the route to ſuch as may come after him. Thoſe roads, however, are full of ſtones, which render travelling extremely unpleaſant. Our bones were ſeverely bruiſed by the eternal jolting of the ſledge. After the embarraſſments of this foreſt, we received ſome compenſation for our ſlow and tedious progreſs, by the agreeable ſenſation we experienced in croſſing a lake, where we ſeemed to fly with all the velocity our horſes were capable of, and without being in the leaſt ſhaken. We courageouſly braved the danger of deſtruction with which the cracking of the ice ſeemed to threaten us, and diſregarded the rents which ran in all directions under our feet. We certainly ſhould not have encountered the perils we were expoſed to in croſſing this river, had we not found travelling by land a thouſand times more fatiguing and diſagreeable, both on account of the bad ſtate of the ſurface for our mode of travelling, and the inconvenience of the ſtones which ſometimes made us ſtart from the ſledge, before we were aware of the obſtacle that lay in our way.

It was principally between Tuokola and Gumſila that we found travelling on the river haraſſing and dangerous; and we ſhould probably have periſhed but for the aſſiſtance of two peaſants, who undertook to ſerve us as guides, and point out to us the places of the river where the ice was ſtrongeſt and in beſt condition to ſupport us. Between Tuokola and Gumſila the river is extremely rapid, and the current being ſtronger in ſome places than in others, the ice in thoſe parts is of a ſlender texture, ſo that it was neceſſary, in order to enſure our ſafety, to have a perfect knowledge of the

direction of the current in ſummer. Our guides went before us in their ſledge, and we followed cloſe behind them with all the preciſion which an affair of ſuch delicacy and importance requires. Having come to a part of the river which was almoſt entirely open, we thought it would be imprudent to attempt to paſs it. We had however no alternative, but either to return and travel five or ſix miles by land, with all its known inconveniencies, or paſſing hard by a houſe, to make our horſes leap a barrier, and drag the ſledge over a heap of ſtones, till we ſhould arrive again at the ice of the ſame river. We choſe to prefer this laſt mode of proceeding; the horſes cleared the barrier, we all gave our aſſiſtance to lift up the ſledge and throw it on the other ſide, and we re-embarked on the ice cloſe by a little mill. Having got upon the ice, we were much ſurpriſed and concerned to find, that we had given ourſelves all this trouble only to reach a place where we had perils ſtill more alarming to encounter. The river was open on both ſides, and it was neceſſary for the ſledge to paſs over a cruſt of ice which had maintained itſelf in the middle, and under which the water made a frightful noiſe. Our guides, who ventured on it firſt, aſſured us that there was no danger, and that when we had croſſed this piece we ſhould have nothing more to fear during the remainder of our journey. It was at the moment a bitter pill to ſwallow; but it promiſed to procure us much comfort afterwards. Although our guides had by this time got to the other ſide, our anxiety was not diminiſhed; we were unable to conquer the reluctance excited in our minds by the view and

noiſe

To face p. 235. Vol. 1.

J. Bye sc.

Perilous passage on the Ice

noiſe of the water, the rapidity of the current, which ſhewed itſelf at two openings, and by the apparent fragility of the cruſt of ice which was to ſupport us in the midſt of the ſtream. With exemplary diſcretion we embraced the wiſe expedient (which made our Finlandiſh peaſants laugh immoderately) of creeping upon our knees, paſſing a hillock of ice that obſtructed our way in that humble poſture, and of ſliding on our ſeat to the oppoſite ſide, where we joined our ſledge, which waited our arrival. This ridiculous ſcene was highly entertaining, and converted into mirth the terror of all our dangers.

Having croſſed the river at this place, our guides informed us, that we had no farther occaſion for them, and that we might purſue our journey without the ſmalleſt apprehenſion. They inſtantly left us without waiting for any ſort of recompence for their ſervices; and when we called them back and offered them money, they ſeemed aſtoniſhed that we ſhould think of rewarding them. One of them remained deaf to all our importunities, refuſed our money with firmneſs and dignity, and went away without it. Our narrow minds, that are filled with notions of what is called refinement, are at a loſs to conceive how thoſe people, who appear ſo poor and low in our eyes, merely becauſe they have not a coat cut after the model of our's, ſhould refuſe money, and ſubmit to ſo much toil only for the pleaſure of being uſeful to others, and for the *inſipid* ſatisfaction of doing good. Such examples, but too rare and too little known in the poliſhed circles of great towns, are not ſo in thoſe places which are far removed from a metropolis,

where morals have become the victim of ſelfiſh and corrupt paſſions. It is the traveller, who, conſtantly carrying about with him his ideas of civilization (which is often only a different name for a ſyſtem of refined ſelfiſhneſs), introduces his degraded notions into the boſom of a ſimple people, obliging from inſtinct, and generous and beneficent from nature. We for ever conſider it as incumbent upon us to reward every little attention with money; and knowing no gratification equal to that of receiving pecuniary acknowledgment, we render the pureſt pleaſures of our nature venal by the recompences we beſtow, and corrupt and debaſe, by views of intereſt, that ſenſe of duty which is cheriſhed by a ſentiment of pleaſure, and enjoyed by every moral heart upon performing a good action to his fellow men.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XVI.

The Journey continued—Brightneſs and Tranſparency of the Ice, and the probable Reaſon of it—Stop at Sillanpe—Arrival at Waſa—Account of this Town: its Situation, Trade, and Inhabitants—The Tribunal for the Government of the North of Finland, at Waſa—The Preſident and Governor—Anecdotes of Linnæus.

BEFORE we reached Waſa, we were ſtill not without ſome apprehenſion from travelling on the rivers of Finland. Hitherto the ice being covered with ſnow of a dirty ſurface, and far from ſhewing the ſmalleſt tranſparency, made us for the moſt part forget that we went upon water; we were now to learn what ſort of ſenſation we ſhould experience in paſſing over a river, where the ice, tranſparent as cryſtal, diſcovered under our feet the whole depth of the element below, inſomuch that we could ſee even the ſmalleſt fiſhes. In the firſt moment of ſurprize, having had no previous notice of the change, we fancied ourſelves inevitably loſt, and that we ſhould be ſwallowed up, and periſh in the awful gulf. Even the horſe himſelf was ſtartled at the novelty of his ſituation; he ſuddenly ſtopped ſhort, and ſeemed unwilling to go forward. But the impulſe he had acquired in travelling puſhed him forward in ſpite of himſelf, and he ſlid, or rather ſkated upon his four jointleſs legs,

legs, for the ſpace of eight or ten yards This ſtrange mode of travelling with a ſkating horſe, upon an element where we could count the fiſhes under the ſledge and under the horſe's feet, was not very amuſing to us, though we were already accuſtomed to a road of ice. I was at ſome pains to ſatisfy myſelf as to the reaſon why the ice was ſo clear and pellucid in particular parts of the river only; and I think I diſcovered it in the united action of the ſolar rays and of the wind. The wind having ſwept away the ſnow and cleared the ſurface of the ice, the ſun, at the end of March and beginning of April, having acquired conſiderable force, had melted and rendered ſmooth the ſurface, which at firſt is always ſomewhat rough and uneven; this being frozen during the night, formed a mirror of the moſt perfect poliſh. The luſtre of the ice on this river is very remarkable; had it not been for the little ſhining and perpendicular fiſſures, which ſhewed the diameter of the ice's thickneſs, it would have been utterly impoſſible for us to diſtinguiſh it from the water below. Where the river happened to be of a profound depth, we could perceive our vaſt diſtance from the bottom only by an indiſtinct greeniſh colour: the reflection that we were ſuſpended over ſuch an abyſs made us ſhudder. Under this terrifying impreſſion, the vaſt depth of the river, and dazzled by the extraordinary tranſparency and brilliancy of the ice, we crept along the ſurface, and felt inclined to ſhut our eyes, or turn away our heads, that we might be leſs ſenſible of our danger. But when the river happened to be only a yard or two deep, we were amuſed to be able to count the pebbles at the bottom of the water, and to frighten the fiſhes with our feet.

Before our arrival at Waſa we ſtill endured much bodily fatigue from the rough motion of the ſledge; and we were obliged to make a pauſe at a ſmall place called Sillanpe, which ſerved as a ſtage or poſt-houſe. Here we found a public houſe kept by a widow, and ſo overjoyed were we to meet again with the comforts of life, that we remained with her two whole days.

Waſa is the firſt town you meet with upon entering Oſtrobothnia. It is built entirely of wood, and the houſes for the greater part only conſiſt of one ſtory. Waſa is a conſiderable ſtapelſtad, ſituated under the 64th degree of north latitude. It is one hundred and ſixty-two miles from Stockholm, forty-one from Abo, fourteen from Gamla Carleby, and eight and a half from Ny Carleby. The town was founded, with a pariſh church, Muſtaſaari, by Charles IX. It was endowed with certain privileges in 1611, and named after the illuſtrious houſe of Waſa, being at the ſame time honoured with the permiſſion of bearing the arms of that family. The late king of Sweden, Guſtavus III. eſtabliſhed at Waſa, in the year 1775, a tribunal, or ſupreme council for the north of Finland, the inſtitution of which was celebrated with great pomp at Stockholm, on the 26th of June, 1776. In its dependance are three governments, viz. Waſa, Uleåborg, and Knopia,* two juriſdictions, and ſeven territorial judges.

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* Before this inſtitution the inhabitants of thoſe diſtricts were under the neceſſity of carrying their diſputes to Abo. After informing myſelf as well as I could reſpecting the adminiſtration of this tribunal, I found that there are a third more law-ſuits now than there uſed to be when the people were obliged to carry them to

The building appropriated to the ſittings of the courts is built of ſtone cloſe to the town, and upon the declivity of a riſing ground to the ſouth-eaſt, oppoſite to the governor's palace and the royal farm of Thorſholm. This edifice is ſeventy yards in length by twenty-ſeven in breadth, and thirty-three in height, and conſiſts of three ſtories. In front it is ornamented with a clock. It is of the doric order of architecture, and is altogether one of the handſomeſt buildings in the kingdom. On the frieze is obſervable the following inſcription: "Guſtavus III. R. S. "anno Imperii XII. extruxit Themidique dicavit." To the weſtward is an open place, a hundred yards broad, and two hundred and fifty-five in length, called the market-place of Guſtavus, from which, oppoſite to the front of the houſe, runs an avenue of four rows of trees on each ſide, a hundred yards broad, and five hundred long. Around the market-place are erected the houſes of the members of the tribunal, in a ſtyle of perfect ſymmetry. The inhabitants, for the ornament of the town, have begun to plant avenues of trees to the eaſt, north and ſouth of the railing that incloſes the building.

The town of Waſa is in a very improving condition, both as to the daily extenſion of its trade, and the increaſing number of its commodities. As it now ſtands, it covers a ſurface of ſixteen hundred yards in length, and a thouſand in breadth, and contains

to ſo great a diſtance; which ſeems to prove that tribunals and lawyers multiply law-ſuits, juſt as phyſicians are ſaid ſometimes to have added to the number of diſeaſes.

ſeventeen

ſeventeen ſtreets, ſeven of which run from north to ſouth, and cut the remaining ten at right angles. The ſtreets are all ſtraight and not too narrow. Here is a church which in common belongs to the town and the pariſh of Muſtaſaari; alſo a ſchool and a lazaretto. The burying ground is upon a neat plain of conſiderable elevation, at a quarter of a mile's diſtance from the town. Beſides the ſupreme court, which is conſtituted by the burgomaſters and counſellors, there is likewiſe a ſubordinate court of juſtice, which is the only one in this government.

The trade of this town with foreign nations is rather conſiderable: their chief articles of exportation are tar, pitch, rafters, deals which they ſend to Stockholm, beſides rye, butter, butchers' meat chiefly beef, oil of ſeals, ſkins, tallow, &c.: ſhips for ſale, which are generally conſtructed of fir, are alſo built here. Waſa has an annual market or fair, on the 24th of Auguſt, but it is of little conſequence.

Among the eſtabliſhments of public utility you may reckon a a medicine repoſitory (which in England would be called a medicine warehouſe, or apothecary's ſhop), a medical or botanical garden, a cloth manufacture, a workhouſe for twiſting tobacco, and a plantation of ſeven acres of that *deſtroyer of men's morals as well as health*,* three tan yards, a manufactory for oil from the ſeal, two dye-houſes, and a building for the boiling of pitch.

The old harbour is difficult of acceſs, but there is a new one

* Thus wrote King James I. of England. What abſurd opinion is there that has not been ſanctioned by authors!

ſituated a mile from the former, which is more convenient. In the year 1794 ſix ſhips were employed for foreign and three for home trade.

In the year 1790, Waſa conſiſted of three hundred and eighty-four houſes and houſe-ſteads, four hundred and fifty-five families, eleven hundred and fifty-five citizens paying taxes, of between fifteen and ſixty years of age. The number of males was in all two thouſand one hundred and ſeventy-ſix. The town is bound to equip nine ſailors for the royal navy. The revenue of the maritime cuſtom-houſe for the year 1784 was eighteen hundred and fifteen rix dollars.

In the vicinity of the town are ſprings of mineral water, called Guſtavus's wells, after the preſent prince royal: they were firſt diſcovered in the year 1750. Since the royal tribunal was eſtabliſhed here, a new high road has been made by order of his majeſty, which goes through the pariſhes of Happo, Alajauoi, Saurejavoi, and from Haukas to Cuopio, a town of Savolax. Having paid our compliments to the preſident and governor, we had preſently an invitation to dine with them. They made it their buſineſs to invite the moſt intereſting ſociety of Waſa to meet us: they treated us magnificently, and in the ſame ſtyle of ceremony that we had experienced at Stockholm; for here, as in other countries, the towns of the provinces always look up to, and ſtudy to imitate the manners of the capital.

It ſeemed to me like a dream to meet here a lady ſo amiable, ſo well informed, and ſo poliſhed in her manners as we found the

wife

wife of the preſident of the court of juſtice: ſhe underſtands Italian and French, and has acquired a taſte for the beauties of our beſt Italian poets.

I ſaw at the houſe of the preſident a very intelligent and converſable clergyman. We had much converſation concerning the Finlanders, eſpecially on the ſubject of their poetry, and he mentioned a variety of intereſting particulars. Speaking of Linnæus with whom he had been well acquainted at Upſala, he had much to ſay on the character of the Swediſh naturaliſt, and dwelt particularly on the extreme vanity which that great man ſeems to have carried to the moſt diſguſting length. He related to me ſome anecdotes which gave ſtrong indications of that weakneſs. A lady of the province of Upſala, who had never been beyond its boundaries, applied to a friend of Linnæus for a letter of recommendation, that ſhe might have an opportunity of making the acquaintance of this eminent character, and at the ſame time ſee his collection. The philoſopher received her with much politeneſs, and as he was ſhewing her the muſeum, the good lady was ſo filled with aſtoniſhment at the ſight of an aſſemblage of ſuch a number of different objects, upon each of which Linnæus had always ſomething to remark, that ſhe exclaimed with a ſigh, *I no longer wonder that Linnæus is ſo well known over the whole province of Upſala!* Linnæus, who inſtead of *the province of Upſala* expected to hear *the whole univerſe*, was ſo ſhocked, that he would ſhew her nothing more of the muſeum, and ſent the lady away quite confounded at the change of his humour, and at the ſame time

firmly believing that her high encomium had wounded the feelings of the great philoſopher. One day, being in a melancholy temper, he gave orders that no perſon ſhould be admitted to him, and placed himſelf, in his bed-gown and night-cap, ſad and penſive upon his ſofa. An officer in the Swediſh ſervice arrived with a party of ladies, who had made a journey for the expreſs purpoſe of ſeeing the Linnæan collection. The officer was denied admittance; but being aware of Linnæus's caprice, he would not be refuſed by the ſervant, but puſhed by him, and entered the chamber where Linnæus was ſitting. At firſt ſome indignation was ſhewn at this intruſion; but the officer introduced the ladies with a moſt extravagant panegyric, to *the illuſtrious philoſopher, who was the ſole object of their journey; to the man whom the whole world allowed to be the greateſt; to that man who had put nature herſelf to the rack in order to diſcover her deareſt ſecrets, &c.* Linnæus's ſurly humour inſtantly forſook him, and he never appeared more amiable in his manners than to this officer, whom he embraced tenderly, calling him his true friend, &c. &c. He was ſo ſingularly enamoured of praiſe, that his mind was never in that ſedate ſtate which would have enabled him to diſtinguiſh true commendation from flattery and deception. The clergyman, who at firſt could not credit ſuch reports, was convinced of their reality by one of his friends, who compoſed ſo ridiculous an eulogy for Linnæus, that the weakeſt child might have treated it as a farce or ſatire: it was worded in the bombaſt of the middle ages, or in the Aſiatic ſtyle: he called him the ſun of botaniſts,

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the Jupiter of the *literati*, the ſecretary of nature, an ocean of ſcience, a moving mountain of erudition, and other appellations to the ſame effect. Linnæus, far from feeling diſpleaſure at ſuch exceſſive and ridiculous compliments, interrupted the panegyriſt at each phraſe, embracing him, and calling him his deareſt friend.

The governor invited us to dine with him the following day. At table, talking of œconomy, it was agreed by the company that Waſa was the town of all others where one may live on the cheapeſt terms. A woodcock, which at Stockholm would coſt thirty-two Swediſh ſkillings, or ſixteen pence Engliſh, is bought at Waſa for four. The price of a water-quail at Stockholm, twelve ſkillings, here is only two ſkillings the pair. Fire wood coſts almoſt nothing, except the trouble of cutting it. The clergyman obſerved, that for three rix dollars he kept a fire in his apartment every day without intermiſſion during eight months of the year.

The preſident is the firſt perſon in Waſa, though, as his ſalary is paid in paper, or rix-geld, he has about a thouſand rix dollars leſs than the governor, whoſe appointment conſiſts in proviſions or natural produce, by which he regularly clears an annual income of two thouſand four hundred rix dollars; a ſum more than ſufficient to enable him to live in this place like a great lord.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XVII.

Departure from Waſa—Inconveniencies of the Journey over the Ice—Arrival at Gamla Carleby—Account of this Town—Proceed on the Journey: new Difficulties ariſing from the Ice—Account of Braheſtad—Arrival at Uleåborg.

AS travelling in the ſledge becomes extremely difficult at this advanced period of the ſeaſon, we foreſaw that we ſhould have a very painful and diſagreeable journey from Waſa to Uleåborg. The governor of Waſa earneſtly employed himſelf to trace out for us a route, by which we might travel the greater part of the diſtance upon the ice; at the ſame time he iſſued an order, by which the peaſants of thoſe diſtricts through which we were to paſs, were enjoined to ſupply us with horſes all the way to the frontiers of his government. This was an additional mark of the obliging attention which we had experienced in ſo many inſtances from him during our ſtay; but his orders in their execution were by no means of that advantage to us which we had reaſon to expect, for the peaſants in thoſe parts are not at all in the habit of conducting travellers, and are in want of many things neceſſary for that purpoſe. Their ſledges are ill conſtructed; they are extremely ſlow in yoking their horſes, and have not a ſufficient ſupply: we

we therefore were conſtantly obliged to wait for ſome hours before they had prepared for our departure.

The journey from Waſa to Uleåborg is about one hundred and ninety Engliſh miles. We purſued our courſe along the coaſt, croſſing rivers, woods, and branches of the ſea, and were ſometimes at a conſiderable diſtance from the ſhore. The whole of this vaſt tract of country is flat, and abounds in woods of firs and pines of a very large ſize. The coaſts are naked and ſtony, and preſent rocks and iſlets without the ſmalleſt appearance of vegetation. We proceeded with the greateſt diligence, but we became extremely wearied by the mode of travelling we were obliged to adopt. Before we arrived at Gamla Carleby, we ſaw at ſea two frigates, and ſoon after paſſed four or five merchant ſhips which the ice had detained, and conſtrained to paſs the winter in thoſe regions.

Gamla Carleby is a decent town, ſituated in a ſmall gulf of the ſea, and has ſome trade: it is at the diſtance of one hundred and forty-ſix Swediſh miles from Stockholm, if you go the uſual north road towards Torneå, fifty-five from Abo, and fourteen from Waſa. It was founded in the year 1620 by Guſtavus Adolphus, who conferred upon it certain privileges, which have been confirmed to the inhabitants at different periods ſince that time. The town is regularly built, with a handſome market-place, five ſtreets in its length and five in its breadth, which are each twenty yards wide; and it contains two hundred and fourteen houſeſteads, or lots for houſes. In the year 1790 there were here thirty-

one

one merchants, three hundred and twenty-eight families, eight hundred and twenty-ſeven perſons paying taxes; and the whole number of inhabitants was one thouſand three hundred and ſixty-ſeven. The town has a church built of wood for the uſe of its own inhabitants, and the burying ground is on the outſide of the town.

The harbour, on account of a ſand bank which blocks up its entrance, is inacceſſible to ſhips heavy laden and drawing much water, its depth being only from twelve to thirteen feet, ſo that large veſſels are compelled to lie in the road while they load and unload: it is to be hoped, however, that this inconvenience will ſoon be remedied. The town has alſo a place for loading in the pariſh Kalajoki, with a dock, and carries on a conſiderable trade in ſhips built for exportation, in tanning, deals, butter, tallow, and hops. It had in the year 1794 fourteen ſhips (amounting altogether to one thouſand five hundred and thirty-ſix tons), of which thirteen were for foreign trade; theſe exported about one thouſand eight hundred barrels of tar, one thouſand five hundred barrels of pitch, from three to four hundred dozens of planks, two thouſand pounds of butter, two hundred and ſeventy-three hundred weight of tallow, nine hundred barrels of corn, &c. The inland cuſtoms for the year 1781 produced about two thouſand one hundred and twenty-five, and thoſe of the maritime department two thouſand and twenty-ſeven rix dollars.

The inhabitants of Gamla Carleby plant tobacco, and prepare it for uſe; they are engaged in other branches of induſtry; they raiſe

raiſe potatoes, rye, and barley, and have about three hundred acres of arable land in cultivation. Not far from the town is a printied cotton manufactory; alſo a houſe for boiling pitch, a ſtore-houſe for tar, a ſaw-mill near the mouth of the river Kulajoki, &c. The magiſtracy conſiſts of a burgomaſter and ſix council-men. About a mile from Carleby are ſome ſprings of mineral water.

From Gamla Carleby we continued our journey on the ice, and experienced a new ſenſation peculiar to this mode of travelling. We have before obſerved, that the froſt is here ſo intenſe, as to arreſt the ſea in its waving motion. The ſun becoming more powerful with the advancement of the ſeaſon, melted conſiderably the ice on the ſurface. The water thus produced during the day, collected in the cavities or furrows, and formed little pools or rivulets, which we were under the neceſſity of traverſing in our ſledges; and as they were always a conſiderable depth in the middle, we ſaw ourſelves deſcending we knew not where, and actually thought we ſhould ſink to the bottom of the ocean. The intrepidity, or rather indifference, with which the Finlander made his way through thoſe pools, encouraged us a little; but the recollection that we were upon the ſea, and a conſciouſneſs that the water was entering our ſledge, excited at firſt frightful apprehenſions, and a continued diſagreeable feeling.

In nights of ſevere and intenſe cold, ſuch as frequently occur at that time of the year, a cruſt of ice is formed over thoſe pools, inſomuch, that the water becomes incloſed between two plates of ice: in this caſe the ſledge, as it paſſes over the upper cruſt, which

is generally of but a brittle texture, breaks it, and ſuddenly falls into the water, which bubbles up all about the ſledge, nor does it ſtop till it gets to the ſecond layer of ice. This unexpected fall produces a horrible ſenſation; and though there are rarely more than two feet of diſtance from one ſtratum of ice to the other, yet the ſight of the water, the plunging of the horſe, &c. are exceedingly alarming.

In our travels on the ice we fell in with fiſhermen who uſe the hook and bait: they ſometimes ſtopped, and amuſed us by ſhewing us the fiſh they had caught. Their figure was a great curioſity to us: they ſcour over the ice in long wooden pattens, and ſhove themſelves along with a pole they hold in their hand. The velocity of their progreſs is almoſt incredible; and the wonderful celerity of motion in their bodies, without the ſmalleſt preceptible action in their legs (for they uſe only their arms), forms a very ſtriking ſight to a perſon beholding them for the firſt time. When employed in fiſhing, they exhibit a very curious picture, on account of the contraſt which is obſervable in all thoſe objects. They carry along with them a ſmall triangular ſail, which, when they have occaſion to remain long ſeated on the ice, they ſpread, in order to ſhelter them from the wind. Having perforated the ice with a kind of chiſel, which makes a part of their apparatus, they plunge the hook into the ſea to the depth of about thirty feet: if the cold happens to be ſomewhat ſevere, they are obliged to be continually ſtirring the water at the orifice of the hole to prevent its freezing. We witneſſed ſeveral lucky dips of the fiſhermen's

hooks,

hooks, and we did not leave them till we had caught ſome fiſh ourſelves. Afterwards, wiſhing to try whether we could run on the ice with their pattens, we afforded no ſmall diverſion to thoſe good people by our awkward manner of uſing them, as well as by ſeveral falls, which were more amuſing to the ſpectators than agreeable to the performers.

You meet often in thoſe parts with what may be termed diſruptions of the ice, which form a ſtrange picturesque appearance, ſometimes reſembling the ruins of an ancient caſtle. The cauſe of theſe diſruptions is the rocks, which happen to be at the depth of ſome feet under the ſurface of the water. During the prevalence of the intenſe cold, the water freezes frequently three feet or more in thickneſs; the elevation of the ſea is conſequently diminiſhed, and ſinks in proportion to the diameter of the ice that is formed: then thoſe ſhelves and rocks overtop the ſurface, and break the coheſion of the ice, while accident depoſits the detached maſſes and fragments in a thouſand irregular forms. It is extremely dangerous to traverſe the ice in thoſe parts during night, unleſs you have the compaſs conſtantly in your hand, and even with it you are not always ſafe. The traveller is frequently interrupted by thoſe obſtacles; he often loſes ſight of the coaſt, while the whiteneſs of the ſnow dazzles his eyes, and makes it extremely difficult to diſcern the traces of the ſledges which have paſſed that way before: thus he is in no ſmall danger of loſing the road, and of going on in a different direction, which may lead

him far in the icy defert; an accident which happened to us more than once.

I have made no mention of Braheſtad, a ſmall town we paſſed on the road, becauſe I did not think it at the time of much conſequence; I ſhall however give ſome account of it here. This town is a ſtapelſtad, and ſituated under the 64th degree 43 minutes of latitude, in the bailwick and pariſh of Salo, one hundred and thirty-five leagues and a half from Stockholm (by the common north road),* ſixty-nine from Abo, eight and a half from Uleåborg, and thirty from Waſa. It ſtands on the gulf of Bothnia, at the top of a bay formed by two peninſulas: the town itſelf is upon the main land. It was founded by Count Peter Brahe, who conſidered this ſituation as particularly favourable for trade. The town became his property by purchaſe, and in December 1649 he provided it with a charter and certain privileges: in 1652 it was called after his name. Thoſe privileges were confirmed to the town in 1651, 1652, 1680; and the laſt and moſt important, by which it acquired the right of ſtapelſtad, to carry on foreign trade, is dated the 7th April 1791. For its armorial bearings it has part of the arms of the family of Brahe, viz. a horſe, and a man with a lance and helmet. The harbour was once good and convenient; but at preſent it is choaked up with mud, inſomuch that only ſmall veſſels, or large ones with half their cargo, are able to enter it. Ships drop anchor at the mouth of the harbour, a quarter of a mile from the market place.

* Which runs along the gulf of Bothnia to Torneå.

The

The trade of the town conſiſts in pitch, tallow, butter, hides, furs, a ſmall quantity of ſalmon, and other fiſh. The exports, for ſome years before 1792, taken at an average, amounted to fourteen thouſand four hundred and forty-four barrels of tar, ten thouſand hundred weight of butter, and one thouſand five hundred and ſeventy-one hundred weight of tallow. Their traffic in butcher's meat was once conſiderable, as well as that of preſerves of rubus chumæmorus, a berry peculiar to Sweden. They alſo export wood and planks for ſhipping, which are cut by a ſaw-mill on the river Pyhajoki. From abroad they import ſalt, of which the town takes care to have a conſtant ſupply of one thouſand eight hundred tons. In the year 1794, the town had fourteen ſhips of one thouſand and fifty-five tons burthen in all: of theſe, four, or perhaps ſix, are employed in foreign trade. They have a rope-work, and a cotton manufactory, ſufficient for home conſumption, and a good fiſhery.

The town poſſeſſes but a very ſmall territory. In the year 1790 the number of the inhabitants was ſeven hundred and ſixty-three; and of five hundred and forty who paid taxes, twenty-eight were merchants and thirty-two burgeſſes. The number of the houſes in 1794 was one hundred and twenty-four, the families two hundred and twenty-five, perſons paying taxes five hundred and ſeventy-two. The duties collected at the maritime cuſtom-houſe for the year 1791, amounted to one thouſand and twenty-five rix dollars thirty ſkillings. Cloſe to the town there are a manufactory of pitch, and a ſtorehouſe for tar: there

is,

is, beſides, another manufactory of pitch at Pyhajoki. The inhabitants are provided with milk from the pariſhes of Pyhajoki and Kulajoki.

We arrrived at Uleåborg on the ſeventh of April, where we found, cloſe by the town-houſe, a tolerable inn, which is the only one in the place. At night, after we were gone to bed, we were ſurpriſed by an incident which appeared to us very extraordinary in a country of ſo high a latitude. I have long been in the dangerous habit, before falling aſleep, to read a book for half an hour. That evening I happened to be reading Arioſto, when I thought I heard three taps on the window of our chamber, which was on the ground floor. I paid not the ſmalleſt attention to it the firſt nor even the ſecond time. When it was repeated the third time, I began to ſuſpect it had ſome meaning; but as I read Arioſto, I was diſpoſed to doubt whether it was not an effect of my imagination, heated perhaps by that of the poet. The fourth time, however, I had ſcarce the ſhadow of a doubt that it was ſomebody who tapped at the window; but ſtill, to guard againſt illuſion, I awaked my companion, who ſlept in another bed in the ſame room; and after acquainting him with my impreſſion, prayed him to liſten, and obſerve whether he could not hear a noiſe at the window. We then heard the three traps repeated, accompanied with a voice, which uttered ſomething indiſtinctly. I roſe, put on my pelice, and taking up my piſtols went out of the chamber to ſee what it might be. But how great was my ſurpriſe!....It was a fine girl who wanted a corner of a bed. I immediately

immediately uncocked, and laid aſide the piſtols, for fear of doing miſchief....What happened afterwards?....For the ſolution of ſuch difficult problems, Arioſto generally refers to another canto; but for the ſolution of this, let the reader conjecture what might have happened to himſelf in ſimilar circumſtances.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XVIII.

Account of Uleåborg: Situation, Population, and Trade—Mineral Springs near Uleåborg—The Soil in the Neighbourhood of this Town, and its mineral Productions—The Climate and Seaſons—Vegetation, and animal Creation.

ULEABORG is a ſtapelſtad, ſituated in 65 degrees north latitude. It was founded by Charles IX. in 1605. It has two cuſtom-houſes, one for the land, and one for the ſea; two ſquares, ſixteen ſtreets, and is divided into quarters. The population is about three thouſand eight hundred ſouls. The articles of exportation are as follow:

Tar (exported annually)		tons	30,000
Pitch, ditto	—	—	3,000
Butter, ditto	—	—	30,000
Tallow, ditto	—	—	70,000
Salmon, ditto	—	—	2,000
Dried pike, ditto	—	—	4,000
A peculiar ſpecies of herrings, ditto		—	300
Planks, ditto	— —	dozens	600

The goods that are imported from abroad are, wine, oil, and lemons, which altogether do not amount to much. The yearly importation

importation of ſalt amounts on an average to almoſt ten thouſand tons: it is brought from the Mediterranean, and particularly from Spain.

Under the head of manufactures come two ſaw-mills, two corn-mills, three fulling-mills for ſtuffs of wool and linen cloth; a tobacco manufactory, and three dying houſes. The public revenue produces eight thouſand rix dollars per annum. Uleåborg ſends four ſhips to the Mediterranean, which return laden with different articles, but principally ſalt. Beſides theſe, there are other veſſels employed in freightage.

In the iſlands at the mouth of the river are two or three docks for building ſhips, where about ſix veſſels every year of different ſizes are conſtructed. The port of Uleåborg is a very bad one: the ſhipping is obliged to remain in the road about two Engliſh miles from the town, and to load and unload by means of lighters. The road itſelf is every year more and more filled up with ſand and gravel.

In the year 1600, Uleåborg was viſited by Charles IX.; in 1618 by Guſtavus Adolphus; in 1694, by Charles XI.; and in 1752, by Adolphus Frederic. It was attacked by the Ruſſians in 1498, 1517, 1589, and 1592. In 1714, and 1743, it was treated with particular ſeverity by thoſe invaders, and almoſt ruined.

There are at Uleåborg ſome mineral ſprings, and valetudinarians come hither for the purpoſe of drinking the waters. In the year 1799, there were among theſe but three or four foreigners, which, when contraſted with the multiplicity of thoſe who reſort to Spa, and other places on the continent, makes this place appear

very inſignificant. The chemical properties of the Uleåborg waters are theſe:—A veſſel of a hundred cubical inches, contains

Sal digeſtivum ſeu			
Alkali vegetabile	—	—	1.0
Alkali minerale	—	—	5.7
Calx vitriolata	—	—	0.8
Calx aërata	—	—	1.9
Ferrum	—	—	1.2
Terra ſilicea	—	—	1.7

To which muſt be added twelve cubic inches of carbonic acid, and ten of hepatic gas.

The river Uleå, on the banks of which the town is ſituated, rolls down with a great noiſe; and its navigation is attended with conſiderable danger. The trading veſſels which go on this river to the ſea, are conducted by pilots paid by government, and matriculated or regiſtered. None of the Finniſh peaſants, unleſs thus regiſtered, are permitted to engage in that navigation. This regulation was adopted to prevent the continuance of accidents which frequently happened in the river, by boats being upſet and people drowned, who were going up and down. Such is the velocity with which ſhips perform their courſe down the river, that they generally run ſix Engliſh miles in the ſpace of twenty minutes. The ſalmon fiſhery here is very conſiderable; and the ſalmon of Uleåborg fetch a higher price at Stockholm than thoſe of any other place. Speaking of ſalmon, I ſhall be excuſed by my reader for relating a fact, not more ſingular than well authenticated:—

A gentle-

A gentleman of Uleåborg went thence by ſea to Stockholm; on his return, the ſhip's ſteward, in cleaning the plate after dinner, let fall into the ſea a ſilver ſpoon, which was ſwallowed by a ſalmon that chanced to paſs by. The day after this ſalmon made his way up the river near Uleåborg, where it was caught by a fiſherman. The fiſher went to ſell the ſpoon to a ſilverſmith, who, on recognizing the cypher, immediately conveyed it to the gentleman's wife. The lady, who had not received any intelligence from her huſband ſince his departure from Uleåborg, was ſtruck with the belief that he had been ſhipwrecked; and this ſeemed the more probable, as his return had been delayed by contrary winds. The gentleman at laſt conſoled his afflicted wife by his re-appearance, and amuſed her with the recital of the mode in which the ſilver ſpoon was loſt.

With regard to the ſoil in the vicinity of Uleåborg, it differs in ſome particulars; but it is generally ſandy. In the valleys, on the ſides of rivulets, and on the banks of the river Uleå, there is to be found ſome mould; but in ſuch ſmall quantities as ſcarcely to be worthy of notice. If there be any to be diſcovered elſewhere, it has either been waſhed down from the adjacent hills, or has been ground on which country-houſes formerly ſtood. Marl, the *creta argillacea fiſſili-friabilis*, *Linn.* is, as far as I know, not to be met with in this neighbourhood, nor chalk, nor lime-earth; but lime-ſtone has been found in the pariſhes of Kemi Muſios, Paldamo, and Fijao. In Padesjerfoi a copper-mine has been diſcovered, which is now wrought. The ore is *pyrites ferreo-cupreus*,

reus, Linn. In ſeveral places in the vicinity, eſpecially in the pariſhes of Paldamo and Sotkamo, there is iron-earth, or ochre. The peaſants, without any aſſiſtance from others, make for themſelves as much good iron and ſteel as they have occaſion for. From Sotkamo Mr. Julin * brought, and has in his poſſeſſion, a ſtrong blood-ſtone ore, with cryſtal; and this alſo is to be found at Kemi. On the ſea-ſhores of Kemi, near Paldamo and Kala-joki, you meet with great quantities of black ſand impregnated with iron. In ſome places about Kemi, Sotkamo, Kuſamo, and Paldamo, you will light upon a ſpecies of ſlate, the *ſchiſtus ardeſia, Linn.* arranged, I believe, by the late mineralogiſts under the genus of *ardeſia tegularis*. It is not, however, good for roofing. The moſt common ſort conſiſts of ſand conſolidated by clay, or a mixture of clay and quartz.

Beſides the grey and red granite, the moſt common ſtone here, you will find a reddiſh and clear quartz pebble ſtone, flint ſtone, feltſpar, and rock cryſtal, being the *nitrum quartzoſum aqueum, Linn.* Black ſhorl, *(ſchoerlum † nigrum)* is to be ſeen in a few places near Sotkamo and Reövanjemi; in the neighbourhood of the town, below the quickſands, and on the margins of lakes. Clay prevails throughout the whole of the pariſhes of Kemi, Paldamo, and Sotkamo. You meet with *ſaxum micaceum fiſſile cinereum atomis interſtinctis quartzoſis micaceiſque, Linn.* of various colours, but moſtly of black-grey; as alſo the *talcum ollare, Linn.* In Pudeſ-

* This gentleman will be again mentioned hereafter.

† See Retzic's Mineralogia, genus Schoerlum.

jervi

jervi and Sotkamo, at the village of Riſtiarfoi, and in the pariſh of Paldamo, mill-ſtones may be obtained, which conſiſt of a very good ſand-ſtone. About a couple of miles to the northward of Uleåborg, is found on the highway the well known *Rapakivi*, which, according to Kirwan, is an aggregate of *feltſpar* and *mica*; its colour is brown, or browniſh red; it moulders by expoſure to the air; but that is only when the *mica* exceeds. Mr. Kirwan adds, when the *feltſpar* exceeds, it forms a durable ſtone, called in Italy *granitone*.*

There is no great chain of mountains nearer to Uleåborg than the land ridge to the north-eaſt, and eaſt ſouth-eaſt; the grounds being for the moſt part low, and covered with coppices, bogs, and moraſſes; which give to the country around the town a dull and heavy appearance. The ſituation being damp, and not ſufficiently ſheltered, the effects of night froſts are always ſeverely felt.

The land ridge is a vaſt chain of mountains running eaſtward, from the Haldefield in Tornea Lapmark to Peletowaddi in Kemi, forming a boundary between Sweden and Norway, and between the pariſhes Enara and Soetankyla; and after ſtretching farther to the ſouth-eaſt, it proceeds ſouthward through Kemi to Wiiſewana, by the church of Kuuſamo, to Sarwitaiſſal, and hence extending to Kojuretapal, it conſtitutes the boundary between the pariſhes of Paldamo, Sotkamo, and Ruſſia.

* See Kirwan's Elements of Mineralogy, vol. i. p. 345. By Linnæus it was firſt called *muria ſaxi ex micâ ſpato que*, and thus characteriſed: *Conſtat ſaxo aggregato ex ſpato flavo et micâ deliqueſcente ſub dio verſus meridiem.* And in the later editions it was termed, *ſaxum fatiſcens*, and deſcribed in this manner: *ſpatoſum micaceumque ſalſum fatiſcens.*

Places

Places lying under the ſame latitudes, or where the days and nights at the ſolſtices are of the ſame length, are ſaid in general to have the ſame climates. With regard to the geographical climate of Uleåborg, it correſponds with that of Kemi in Ruſſia, of Gorodock and Kuoovatſkai in Siberia, of Cape Tſchukotſkoi Nos, towards the Frozen Sea, of St. James's in North America, of the ſouthern cape of Greenland, of Skalholt in Iceland, and Dromtheim in Norway.

By the phyſical climate is meant the difference of cold and heat, and the condition of the weather in different places at the ſame ſeaſons. The principal and moſt general cauſes of the diverſity of phyſical climate, are the longer or ſhorter continuance of the ſun above the horizon, and the perpendicularity or obliquity of his rays; beſides this, the ſtate of the atmoſphere, which ſurrounds the earth to the height of ten Swediſh (or nearly ſeventy Engliſh) miles, and which accordingly, as it is more or leſs charged with vapours, intercepts and diſperſes more or leſs of the ſunbeams in their deſcent to the earth. The climate is alſo modified by the ſituation of places on hills or plains, near the ſea or on continents. The mild winters in England are owing to the warmneſs of the ſurrounding ocean, while Switzerland, lying ſix degrees farther to the ſouth, experiences a much greater degree of cold, on account of its topographical ſituation.

The ſouth and ſouth ſouth-weſt winds blowing towards Uleåborg, along the gulf of Bothnia, are for the moſt part warm after midſummer till autumn; but before midſummer, as long as the

gulf

gulf is frozen over, they are always cold. The extraordinary degree of cold that prevails at Uleåborg is in a great meaſure owing to the vaſt foreſts and deſerts, which retain a great portion of ice even in ſummer. In proportion to the progreſs of agriculture, as water and wood are cleared away from the ſurface, which prevent the ſun from warming the earth, it may be expected that the climate of this place will become more mild and gentle.

From a compariſon of obſervations made at Stockholm and Uleåborg, it appears that the heat of the thermometer of Celſius, at a mean height at Stockholm throughout the whole year, is nearly 6° above 0, whereas at Uleåborg it generally ſtands at 1° 2-10ths below the freezing point; of courſe the climate of Uleåborg differs by 7° 2-10ths. During a ſpace of twenty years the mercury at Stockholm fell ſeven hundred and nine times to 15 degrees, and once as far as 40 degrees below the freezing point.

At Uleåborg there are two months more of winter than at Stockholm, and one third leſs of ſpring. The autumn is of nearly the ſame duration in both places. As to the comparative length of the autumn, this depends not only on the lingering courſe of the ſun in the autumnal ſolſtice, but more on the ſouth and ſouth-weſt winds which prevail in the months of Auguſt, September, October, and part of November. Thoſe winds which come from the gulf of Bothnia are warmed by the water, which preſerves a greater degree of heat than the atmoſphere. But on the contrary, in the winter ſeaſon, when the ſea is frozen, the winds which blow from the ſame quarter, are cold and diſagreeable,

able, as are thoſe alſo of the weſt and north-weſt. The eaſt and north-eaſt winds are in general warm in ſpring, becauſe thoſe winds, after croſſing the White Sea, traverſe more than thirty Swediſh miles of land, covered with woods and moraſſes, warmed by the influence of the ſun and of vegetation. But in the autumn the ſame winds, after the marſhes are frozen, are very cold.

The froſts of the night during the ſummer come on towards the end of Auguſt, and ſometimes even in July, as the froſt in 1795, which was very ſevere on the 25th of July, and ſpoiled all the legumens and the more delicate culinary vegetables.

Notwithſtanding the coldneſs of the climate the animals thrive very well, and vegetation is more rapid here than in any other place. There are inſtances of grain having been ſown and reaped in the ſpace of ſix weeks. The principal cauſe of this phenomenon is the fine nights, or rather the continual preſence of the ſun.

Mr. Julin, whoſe name I ſhall have occaſion to mention in the following pages, communicated to me ſome intereſting obſervations on the climate of Uleåborg, which I think will not be deemed unworthy of a place at the end of this chapter.

Some

Some general Signs of Spring and Summer at Uleåborg, according to twenty-four years' Obſervation, by J. Julin.

About	
MARCH 5. - -	The melting ice and ſnow begin to trickle from the roofs of the houſes.
APRIL 1. - -	The ſnow-bunting (emberiza nivalis, Lin.) appears.
APRIL 25. - -	The wild geeſe and the birds of the lakes arrive.
	The papilio urticæ (Lin.) makes its appearance.
	The lark (alanda urvenſis, Lin.) ſings.
	The fields are bare, i. e. free from ſnow.
MAY 5. - - -	The white wagtail (motacilla alba, Lin.) ſhews itſelf.
	The wheat ear, or white tail (motacilla œnanthe, Lin.)
MAY 15—20. -	The rivers open, and the ice melted.
	A beginning may be made of planting in the kitchen gardens.
MAY 25. - -	The martin (hirundo urbica, Lin.) comes.
	The cuckow (cuculus canorus, Lin.) calls.
	The ſpring corn is out.
MAY 30. - -	Marſh marigold (caltha paluſtris, Lin.) flowers.
	Trees, for inſtance the birch, (betula alba) put forth their leaves.
JUNE 12. - -	Summer's warmth, of 12 degrees above 0.
AUGUST 10. -	Night froſts begin.
AUGUST 20. -	Harveſt begins. Winter rye (ſecalo) is ſown.
SEPTEMBER 25.	The birch (betula alba) ſheds its leaves.
NOVEMBER 20.	The ice bears; the ground is covered with ſnow.

GENERAL REMARKS.

1. The WINTER begins in October, and laſts full ſeven months, or till the end of April. The SPRING is ſhort, and is over with the month of May. The SUMMER commences in June, and continues three months. AUTUMN takes its beginning with September, and only extends to the end of that month.

2. The greateſt cold in winter is in January, and the greateſt heat in ſummer commonly towards the end of July.

3. The MIDDLE TEMPERATURE for the whole year, if we except the periods when the ſeaſons exert their particular influence, is about the freezing point of the thermometer, or, in other words, conſtant winter.

4. The night froſts are ſometimes pretty ſharp, eſpecially from about the 10th to the 20th of Auguſt. July 25th, 1785, ſeveral things in the kitchen gardens were bit by the froſt, for example the potatoes (ſolonum tuberoſum) and the beans (phaſeolus).

5. However ſhort the ſummer may be in this part of the world, the graſs and corn nevertheleſs grow ſufficiently ripe. There have been inſtances that the corn was ſown and brought in quite ripe in the ſpace of forty-two days.

Extract from a Meteorological Journal kept at Uleaborg, under 65° 1′ 30″ North Latitude, by J. Julin.

DEGREES OF CELSIUS'S THERMOMETER.

Years.	Greateft Heat. †	Greateft Cold. —	Middle Heat. †	Middle Cold. —	Middle Temperat.
1776	† 21°	— 29°	† 7°	— 12°	— 0° 9′
1777	22	27	7	12	2 2
1778	22	22	6	13	2 5
1779	21	27	7	12	0 9
1780	20	29	6	15	3 4
1781	20	40	6	15	3 0
1782	23	37	9	10	0 1
1783	20	31	7	15	2 5
1784	17	30	6	12	1 9
1785	25	30	9	11	† 0 5
1786	27	32	11	11	† 1 0
1787	25	31	21	10	† 1 9
1788	29	34	12	20	† 0 9
1789	30	34	16	20	† 1 8
1790	26	28	11	16	† 2 7
1791	24	21	11	14	† 3 1
1792	28	33	13	19	† 1 7
1793	27	32	13	16	† 2 1
1794	28	24	13	16	† 4 0
1795	28	34			
1796	30	31			
1797	27	21			
1798	31	31			
1799		40			
Medium	† 24° 8′	—30° 6′	† 10° 0′	—14° 0′	† 0° 2′

The middle height of the barometer, for the whole year, is 25 inches, and 29 decimal lines.

The *middle height* of the *water* descending from the atmosphere amounts to 12½ inches in the year; which is upon an average thus calculated for the four seasons, viz.

For Winter	6 deg.	0 min.
Spring	2	0
Summer	5	1
Autumn	0	5

The *middle temperature of the four seasons* is, according to a mean proportion of twelve years, as follows:

Winter	10 deg.	cold —
Spring	6 deg.	warm †
Summer	15 deg.	warm †
Autum	6 deg.	warm †

N. B. The sign (†) signifies warmth, or that the thermometer is above the freezing point.

The sign (—) denotes cold, or that the thermometer is below 0.

CHAPTER XIX.

Stay at Uleåborg protracted longer than was intended; Reaſons aſſigned for it—Intereſting Individuals mentioned—Curious Experiments with Animal Magnetiſm: Reflections on the extraordinary Phenomena produced by it—Advantages attending a Reſidence in ſmall Country Towns—Hoſpitality at Uleåborg—Spirit of Society at that Place—Singular Mode of ſhewing Regard and Friendſhip for a Stranger.

IT was our firſt intention to remain at Uleåborg only five days, and by availing ourſelves, whilſt the ſeaſon permitted, of the uſe of the ſledge, to puſh our travels with the utmoſt expedition as far northward as poſſible, ſo as to return in ſummer, that we might thus have ſurveyed the country in both ſeaſons, and witneſſed the intereſting proceſs and ſtrange ſpectacle of an almoſt momentary tranſition from winter to ſummer. We might have beheld the whole ſurface of the ground covered with ice and ſnow; have travelled with the rein-deer and roving Laplander; and in the ſpace of two weeks have obſerved the ice melt, the ſnow vaniſh, the Laplander retire into his mountains, leaves and flowers ſpring up, and the whole ſyſtem of vegetation diſplay itſelf in all its beauty. This picture, which we reliſhed ſo highly

by anticipation, and which was ſo flattering to a lively imagination, yielded to the attractions of Uleåborg, which promiſed us pleaſures and reſources of a different deſcription. The polite attention of Baron Silfverkielm, of Governor Carpalan, and the acquaintance we made of ſeveral other intereſting characters, and the pleaſing accident of finding here two gentlemen *amateurs* of muſic, who, with my companion and myſelf, could execute a *quartetto*, made us forget our plan, and convert our five days ſtay into that of a couple of months. It being near the middle of April, the ſeaſon was too far advanced; the ice began to waſte, and loſe its ſtrength, and the rivers became every day leſs ſafe. We ſhould have run the riſk of being detained in a deſert country during the period of thaw, after which we muſt have allowed at leaſt a week till the earth had recovered its ſolidity, and the marſhy grounds had become dry. The attractive ſcene of the change of ſeaſons we might view at Uleaborg with nearly the ſame advantage; and as to the phenomena of winter, we had already ſeen ſo much of them on our journey from Stockholm, that our curioſity was nearly gratified. In ſhort, we found our ſituation at Uleåborg ſo agreeable, that we were at no loſs to diſcover reaſons for adapting our plan to our liking, or for juſtifying our conduct in our own eyes.

I found at Uleåborg that I might carry on a courſe of ſtudy introductory to the natural hiſtory of Lapland. An excellent opportunity for this purſuit was afforded by Mr. Julin, apothecary at Uleåborg, who, beſides a good collection of objects in every claſs

claſs of the natural hiſtory of Lapland and Finland, was poſſeſſed of conſiderable knowledge on this ſubject, and at the ſame time took great pleaſure in communicating information to thoſe who were deſirous of becoming acquainted with this branch of ſcience. He was well provided with books, had an electrical apparatus, and amuſed himſelf by making experiments in different departments of natural philoſophy.

The Baron Silfverkielm was a very amiable man, who had paſſed a great part of his life near the perſon of King Guſtavus, had travelled, and ſeen much of the world. He was an excellent mechanic, amuſed himſelf with chemiſtry, poſſeſſed an admirable Engliſh electrical machine, made experiments, and was fond of reading and the ſtudy of belles-lettres. He was a man of no ceremony, and (which will not be believed by every one) a moſt famous magnetiſer, and one of the greateſt proficients among the diſciples of Meſmer. I have ſeen the Baron give proofs of his ſkill in animal magnetiſm, which, I confeſs, ſhook my incredulity a little, both in reſpect to the efficacy of his principles, and the exiſtence of the magnetic fluid, or whatever elſe it may be called, which is ſuppoſed to operate upon individuals. The effects it produces cannot eaſily be attributed to ordinary cauſes, nor ſupported by reaſons derived from the known laws of nature. Although he was unable to affect me with his magnetical powers, yet he wrought upon perſons whoſe probity and good faith I am not at liberty in any degree to queſtion. He repeated to me experiments he had made in different places, on different individuals,

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and in different circumſtances; and I find myſelf ſatisfied as to the exiſtence of ſome natural cauſe or principle which has hitherto remained unknown: it is wrapt up in obſcurity, and is as yet inexplicable to the underſtanding. I am very far from attempting, after the Baron's example, to account for it; though I think that a ſolution of this problem may be reſerved for a period of higher improvement in the knowledge of nature, the ſtudy of which has been ſo ſucceſsfully purſued, and ſo rapidly advanced, in the courſe of the preſent century. I ſaw my fellow traveller, as incredulous as myſelf, fall into a profound ſleep by the mere motion of the magnetiſer's fingers; I heard him ſpeak in his ſleep, and reply to whatever queſtions I propoſed to him; I ſaw him again awake by the ſimple motion of the magnetiſer's fingers, while I was unable to rouſe him from his ſomnolency, though I brought fire cloſe to his hand, an experiment to which he was as inſenſible as a dead body. He awoke, after ſleeping from five to ſix hours, remembering nothing of what he had ſaid, denying obſtinately that he had been aſleep, and yielding with difficulty at laſt to the authority of his watch, and the teſtimony of all thoſe who had witneſſed the circumſtance. I might mention a number of facts relative to this ſubject, by which I ſhould be able to prove, that in theſe trials there could be neither connivance nor impoſture, nor previous arrangement; but this doctrine ſtill lies too much under ſuſpicion for me to dwell any longer upon it. I ſhall only add, that two Engliſh travellers, better informed, and, if poſſible, greater infidels than myſelf reſpecting meſmeriſm,

happening

happening to paſs by Uleåborg at the ſame time, ſtopped a day, that they might obſerve ſome of the magnetical performances. From previous concert one of them was to aſſume the appearance of being affected; but at the moment when the magnetiſer ſhould ſeem confident that his art had taken effect, he who was to feign himſelf aſleep, at a ſign given him by the other, was to awake in ſurprize, and thus diſappoint the credulity of the operator and his audience. The experiments accordingly began: one of them was unſuſceptible of the magnetic impreſſion, the other was actually affected, and his companion might make what ſigns he pleaſed; he was deaf, incapable of underſtanding any thing, and in ſuch a languid and lethargic ſtate, that every act of volition was entirely ſuſpended. The two gentlemen will probably give ſome account of their travels, and poſſibly confirm the truth of my relation of theſe almoſt incredible experiments.

It is to be regretted, that the meſmerians in general have their minds ſo heated by the extraordinary, I had almoſt ſaid ſupernatural, aſpect of thoſe phenomena, that they ſuffer themſelves to be ſo hurried away by the imagination, as to mount to the ſkies in order to find the phyſical cauſe of thoſe effects among the clouds, inſtead of conſulting and inveſtigating nature in the practice of frequent experiments, and with that ſobriety of mind which ought to be the faithful guide of philoſophy in all her enquiries into the cauſes of things. The imagination, faſcinated and enſlaved by the charm of ſomething preternatural, tries, while bewildered with confuſed conceptions, to divine the meaning,

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the purpoſe, and the end of objects; and while it rambles about in the obſcure and boundleſs regions of conjecture, the true ſpirit of enquiry loſes the thread of its obſervations and of its analyſis, and bounding from one imperfect impreſſion to another, is incapable of ſtopping to obſerve, compare and judge: this was the infirmity of the good Baron. He fancied to himſelf, that the ſoul of the perſon aſleep was tranſported to regions of which the human mind, in conjunction with the body, can form no idea. He went into particulars ſtill more ridiculous, and aſſerted, for inſtance, that there all the ſouls were dreſſed in white, and that they enjoyed in that ſcene of delights ſuch agreeable ſenſations as ſurpaſs all conception. He believed, that in that ſtate of ſleep they foreſaw future events; and that their ſouls being exalted to a higher ſphere of perception, they could ſee many things that are inviſible to the material organs of our imperfect viſion. Inſtead of interrogating the ſleeper as to the nature of his feelings during his torpor; inſtead of trying to found the condition of his phyſical faculties, or queſtioning him as to intelligible objects, his queries were always concerning the white robes, the paradiſe, and thoſe elyſian fields where, according to his theory, the ſouls are in the fruition of every ſpecies of pleaſure, ever perfectly at eaſe, and clothed in their *robe de chambre*. He was deſirous to receive intelligence from his anceſtors, his great grandfather, or his late father; and they very kindly, in general, ſent him their compliments by the mouths of thoſe couriers in white jackets.

From the manner in which I have ſtated my remarks, the reader

reader will be able to judge of the light in which I viewed this ſubject. Having ſucceeded in our reſearches concerning the electrical fluid, and what is called *galvaniſm*, I think it not impoſſible but we may diſcover ſome other fluid, or material ſubſtance, which ſhall have its particular laws, relations and affinities. I am of opinion, that in animal magnetiſm we meet with appearances which cannot be traced to the imagination as their cauſe, nor indeed to any cauſe known or ſtated by the enemies of this doctrine. The French academicians themſelves, in their report on animal magnetiſm, ſhew, perhaps, that they beſtowed upon it neither the time nor the candour and impartiality which a ſubject ſo difficult, and ſo much entangled in the groſſeſt prejudices, had a right to obtain from them. Upon the whole, I conclude that we are ſtill entirely in the dark as to this unknown cauſe, which, though we cannot as yet aſſign to it any name or determinate qualification, is not on that account leſs poſſible.

The proficiency of the Baron in the magnetical ſcience has not met with very great ſucceſs in making proſelytes at Uleåborg: for though this country is removed from the centre of intellectual improvement, yet the diffuſion of knowledge has been ſo univerſal, in the courſe of the eighteenth century, that its ſalutary effects have been felt even here, and men's minds are ſufficiently enlightened to be upon their guard againſt the illuſions of impoſture. Beſides, the Baron is alone; he is deſtitute of that co-operation which, by working on the ſentiments of others, in all times and places, by continually urging and preſſing upon them a ſubject

which they at firſt are unwilling to believe, renders it familiar to their thoughts, and in the end commands the belief of the credulous. The whole aggregate of ſociety is made up of wiſe men and fools. The wiſe men proudly reject a doctrine which cannot furniſh reaſons for pretended facts; a doctrine, the reality of which can be referred to no known cauſe, and ſenſible to what a pitch of refinement impoſture may be carried, they are prone to doubt every thing, and are for ever afraid of being duped. The half-wiſe are in many caſes more ſceptical than even the wiſe; "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing:" they will never talk or reaſon on their belief: it is a maxim with them to believe as little as poſſible, and thus they ſet aſide from levity what the former diſapproved from depth of underſtanding. The fools, however, are actually the moſt dangerous to all founders of new doctrines, ſuch as we have had under our conſideration: they fondly embrace whatever addreſſes itſelf more to the imagination than to the powers of reaſon; they have a greater reliſh for what is ſupernatural than for what is philoſophical: but ſhould they take it into their heads to aſcribe the phenomena that reſult from the experiments before them, to the agency of the *devil*, the naturaliſt, whether he be a magnetiſer or philoſopher, will be judged worthy of damnation, and paſs all the reſt of his life for a magician. It is probable the Baron Silfverkielm was not diſpleaſed at the arrival of a number of ſtrangers, who furniſhed him with a pretext for reviving his doctrines, as well as for repeating his experiments on different inhabitants, who, but to oblige us, would not have ſubmitted to his diſcipline.

In provincial towns there are a number of circumſtances in the traveller's favour, which afford him ample compenſation for the privation he ſuffers in reſpect of thoſe amuſements ſo common in the capital. Hoſpitality exiſts there in a much greater degree; the ſtranger is treated as a perſon of the firſt diſtinction; every body is deſirous of ſhewing attention to him, partly from vanity, no doubt, and partly to fill their own time by an agreeable variety. The cheapneſs of proviſions doubles the traveller's pecuniary reſources, inſomuch, that he is in a condition to play the firſt part with the ſame means that would be neceſſary to his acting the laſt in a great metropolis: in ſhort, every thing is at his diſpoſal, every thing bends before him; and his partiality for himſelf, as well as his natural ſentiments, will influence him to prefer an eaſy and peaceful life, in the boſom of a ſmall circle, to the noiſy pleaſures and diſſipation of large ſocieties.

The taſte for ſocial entertainment at Uleåborg is not very general. The merchants are a diſtinct claſs of themſelves, whom you never meet in other company: theſe are the moſt unfavourable to friendly intercourſe, and alſo the leaſt informed. The perſons who compoſe the uſual ſociety of the place, are ſuch as are in the employment of government, from the governor down to the judges of the tribunal. The governors of provinces, in Sweden, are inſtructed to invite and entertain at their houſes all ſtrangers of any diſtinction. General Carpelan not only obeys his inſtructions, but adds to the offices of politeneſs and hoſpitality the moſt flattering marks of perſonal friendſhip, inſomuch, that

he offered to accommodate us with lodgings at his own houſe. We choſe, however, to remain at the houſe of a merchant named Feldman, who did every thing in his power to oblige us, and under whoſe roof we found all that could contribute to render our reſidence agreeable.

The manners of the Uleåborg ſociety have a great reſemblance to thoſe of the capital. The people have the ſame inclination to play, and are fond of pompous entertainments, and of formality. As the ſtranger is always the principal perſon in company, they are at pains to conſult his taſte, and do every thing they fancy will be moſt agreeable to him. The young ladies are exceedingly pleaſed to be introduced to ſtrangers, and ſtudy to profit as much as they can, in a becoming manner, by their viſits among them. When you have been invited to ſup at a gentleman's houſe, it is a cuſtom (which I cannot ſay is extremely gracious), as ſoon as the entertainment is over, for all the ladies, young and old, who wiſh to teſtify the pleaſure they have enjoyed in your company, to give you a ſlap with the hand upon your back when you leaſt expect it; and it is eſtabliſhed as a rule, that the more forcibly the hand is applied, the more emphatic is the lady's declaration in your favour.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XX.

Stay at Uleåborg continued—Cheapneſs of Living—Prejudices about ſome Articles of Eating—Bright Nights—Sport of Shooting—Chaſe of the Tetrao Urogallus—Muſical Party, and Concerts performed by the Author and ſome fellow Travellers—Impreſſion made by the Power of Muſic upon the Senſibility of thoſe that heard it—Turn of the Finlanders for Muſic and Poetry—The Runa, an Ancient Piece of Muſic in that Country—The Harpu, a muſical Inſtrument—State of Muſic in Finland.

OUR reſidence at Uleåborg will ever be pleaſing to our recollection. Removed from the world, far from the liſtleſſneſs of diſſipation, out of the reach of ceremonious viſits, our time was devoted to ſtudy, to the chaſe, or to the practice of muſic. Our hoſteſs was labouring from morning to night to ſupply us with a plentiful table, and to make our ſituation comfortable in every other reſpect. She killed calves, pigs and oxen, expreſsly on our account. The moſt precious ſpoils of the ſea and rivers were procured for us, and purchaſed without regard to œconomy; and the reader will probably learn with ſome aſtoniſhment, that for this rich and luxurious diet we paid for ourſelves (two perſons) and a ſervant,

ſervant, lodging, breakfaſt, dinner, tea, coffee, and ſupper included, not quite two guineas a week.

Our ſervant cooked our victuals in the Italian faſhion, and the people of the houſe were not a little ſurpriſed at our manner of dining. Our good hoſteſs was quite uneaſy to ſee us dine every day on *ſoupe & bouillie*, and it was not in our power to perſuade her that we did it from choice, and not becauſe ſhe had not a greater variety of good things to ſet before us. She endeavoured to vary our meals with different ſoups every day; one day with a milk ſoup, another with a ſoup of ſago and raiſins, another with a ſoup of wine and milk, another with a ſoup of barley or rice without meat. A difficult and important diſpute aroſe between her and our ſervant on the following ſubject: ſhe would by no means ſuffer the brains and liver of a calf or pig to be dreſſed; every creature in the houſe was ſhocked at the very idea of it. They are always uſed to give the liver and brains of all animals whatever to the hogs, or throw them on the dunghill. We paſſed unavoidably for cannibals, or anthropophagi; and ſuch is the force of prejudice, that having preſſed a perſon to taſte the brains or liver, he would not ſwallow it, but ſpit it out after he had taſted it. Our attempts to convince them of their error, and to ſhew them the rationality of our cuſtom, proved utterly fruitleſs. They were likewiſe ſcandalized at our eating ſmall birds, ſuch as larks, ſnipes, thruſhes, upon all of which we ſet a great value. In thoſe northern regions theſe birds enjoy a ſtate of unmoleſted peace and ſecurity: they not only were to us delicious fare, but afforded

us the moſt agreeable ſport in ſhooting them: it is a diverſion, however, but of ſhort duration, laſting only from the middle of May to the middle of June.

This is a period when a moſt ſurpriſing change takes place in this country. All nature ſeems to awake almoſt at once. That ſolitude, that ſilence, that lethargy of creation, gives place to univerſal and unceaſing motion. The birds ſeem to arrive from all quarters of the earth, and people the woods, the fields, the fens and marſhes, which re-echo their melody all around. The nights, equally fine and clear as the day, enabled us to prolong the pleaſures of the chaſe. We uſed to dine, have our party at muſic, ſup, and at ten o'clock in the evening ſet out, and continue our ſports in the fields till about two o'clock in the morning. The light of the night was even more friendly to our purſuit than that of the day. The ſolar rays did not make the ſame ſtrong impreſſion on our eyes, and ſtill we had light enough for the purpoſe of ſhooting. The birds in the courſe of the night were much more quiet, the wild ducks flocked from the ſea on their way to the lakes and rivers, and ſometimes paſſed directly over our heads. The rivers and lakes, as well as the marſhy ground in their vicinity, ſwarmed with ducks and ſnipes of all deſcriptions. Our pleaſure as ſportſmen was not greater than what we enjoyed as naturaliſts, from the great variety of different ſpecies to which the inhabitants of Italy are total ſtrangers.

The chaſe of the bird, which Linnæus calls *tetrao urogallus*, was perfectly new to me. This bird is of the ſize of a turkey, and

and frequents woods of fir trees. Towards the beginning of June he ſings in the night, perched on a branch, or the ſummit of a tree. He has ſuch extreme ſagacity and cunning, that it is almoſt impoſſible to get near him, except in the moment of his ſinging: then he has a convulſive motion in his head and eyes, which prevents his ſeeing or hearing any thing. His chant or ſong continues nearly a minute each time. The ſportſman, during this ſhort interval, moves on as faſt as he can to come within ſight of him, and the inſtant the bird has done ſinging he ſlips behind a tree, where he muſt not ſtir nor even ſo much as breathe, leſt he ſhould be perceived. In this manner he continues moving forward till he gets to a proper diſtance for firing at him. It is uſual in this chaſe to fix upon ſome ſpot in the wood as a place of rendezvous for the party; and there a large fire is kindled, the ſmoke of which may be ſeen at a diſtance. Some perſon is always left to take care of the fire, leſt it ſhould extend too far, and his employment is to prevent its communicating with the neighbouring trees. Upon theſe occaſions I had an opportunity of obſerving how eaſy it is to ſet a whole wood on fire. In the woods there is a ſpecies of dry moſs, which is a moſt dangerous conductor; and if the people are not extremely careful in clearing it away all round the fire, it will ſpread a conflagration to the diſtance of a mile in a very ſhort time. The ſportſmen, who frequently make fires in the woods for ſome particular purpoſe, muſt be reckoned among the cauſes of thoſe great conflagrations in Sweden and Finland, which we mentioned in a former part of this work.

This

To face p 280 Vol. I.

J. Bye sculp. Clerkenwell.

Finlanders shooting Squirrels.

This ſpecies of ſport had not the ſame attraction for me as the ſhooting of other birds; we were obliged to paſs the whole night in the woods; to liſten to the ſinging of the bird with the invidious ear of a ſpy, to ſkulk and ſuppreſs our very breath, in order the better to catch the ſound of his voice; and when at laſt we heard him, it was neceſſary we ſhould employ all the craft and artifice of a traitor, take advantage even of the ſentiment of love in this poor creature, and all this for the baſe purpoſe of killing him by ſurpriſe. In the chaſe, as in every thing elſe, I love plain dealing; I love to make the birds fly before me, to purſue them, and to declare war before I fire upon them. One ſingle bird killed upon the wing is worth ten aſſaſſinated on the branch of a tree.

What contributed ſtill more to attach us to our reſidence at Uleåborg was, as I have before intimated, the accident of our meeting here two gentlemen lovers of muſic, one of whom played the violoncello, the other the *alto*. Thus, with the aſſiſtance of Mr. Skiöldebrand, my travelling companion, who played the violin, and myſelf who played the clarinet, we were in condition to perform a quartetto tolerably well. A quartetto at Uleåborg was a phenomenon no leſs out of the ordinary courſe of things, than the appearance of the moſt aſtoniſhing meteor. There were not ten perſons in the town who had ever heard muſic in four parts; nor probably from its foundation to the day of our arrival, had a quartetto been ever executed within its bounds. The reader will eaſily conceive the pleaſure we derived from the ſimplicity of thoſe good people, who looked up to us as the gods of muſic,

as well as the ſatisfaction we enjoyed from a ſympathy with their feelings.

Uleåborg, during the time of our ſtay, had a concert every evening, open to every one that choſe to attend. Our audience increaſed in number to ſuch a degree, that we were obliged to hire an apartment larger than any room in our houſe; and our quartetto was conſtantly honoured by a numerous circle of ladies, and almoſt all the gentlemen of the town. It is impoſſible for me to convey an adequate idea of the impreſſion our muſic made upon our hearers. In order to make a trial of their ſenſibility, and the effect of muſic on their paſſions, we compoſed on purpoſe a few pieces of an eaſy harmony, the movement of whoſe modulations was natural and intelligible even to perſons unaccuſtomed to the artificial refinements of muſic. We ſtudied to alternate the movements of grand effect, paſſing from the higheſt *forte* to the loweſt *piano*, and *vice verſa*, by tranſitions of ſurpriſe. We preſently ſaw the tears trickle from the eyes of our feeling audience. As we realized the fabulous times of Greece, our ſpectators preſented a moſt intereſting picture, worthy of the pencil of the moſt celebrated painter. The eyes of all our hearers were turned upon us; ſome ſeemed to follow with every feature of the face the movements of the melody: we could read in the phyſiognomy of the Finlanders the character of the muſic we had played; every look became ſerious at forced and ſtrong modulations, while ſoft and melodious paſſages ſeemed to diſperſe the cloud, and their countenances reſumed their tranquillity. It was curious to obſerve the

the different effects produced by the muſic on perſons of different conſtitutions. One, for example, remained during the whole of a *ſonata* fixed and ſteadfaſt, his mouth open, his eyes ſtaring, without moving his eye-lids, and apparently ſtruck with a ſtupid aſtoniſhment: another, on the contrary, ſeemed to follow every ſtep of the melody with his whole body, and appeared to ſuffer a ſort of muſical convulſion: but the moment we began to play their *runa* every eye was drowned in tears, and the emotion was general.

The runa is a piece of the moſt ancient melody of Finland, which is ſtill retained by this people, and ſuited to their national inſtrument called the *harpu*, probably the original of our *harp*, or a copy of the ancient *cithara* of the Greeks.

The inhabitants of Finland have certainly a very ſenſitive turn both for muſic and poetry. Indeed it ſhould ſeem that theſe two arts go together, but the Finlanders have not made the ſame progreſs in muſic as in poetry, on account of the imperfection of their national inſtrument, and the attachment and veneration with which they have preſerved it.

The *harpu* conſiſts of five ſtrings; and here we may obſerve the firſt ſtep in the origin of the arts. They had no idea of giving it more chords than there are fingers on the hand. The chords are *a*, *b*, *c*, *d*, *e*; and *c* being flat, the inſtrument becomes tuned in *a* minor, the favourite note of all the northern nations. The chords are of metal, and not, like thoſe of the violin and guitar, ſuſceptible of being modulated by the fingers of the left hand.

The whole compaſs of their muſic conſiſts of five notes, and with theſe five notes they play, they dance, and recite their poetry or verſes. It is eaſy to imagine the melancholy and monotonous effect of their muſic, as well as the impoſſibility of improving it, until they ſhall abandon this five-ſtringed inſtrument. But barbarous and half civilized nations are no leſs frugal of their mental than of their corporeal enjoyments: they can diſpenſe with the refinements of muſic as eaſily as they are reconciled to ſimplicity and uniformity in their diet and mode of life.

The introduction of the violin has operated ſome change in the national muſic of that country. The extent of that inſtrument ſeems to have rouſed the genius of the Finlanders, and the muſic they play on the violin has acquired a character different from that which they perform on the *harpu*. I will preſent my reader with ſome ſpecimens of national muſic in the Appendix, where they will have an opportunity of ſeeing the nature of that ancient melody called *runa*, which is certainly diſcriminated by a character not to be met with in any other ſpecies of muſic. It conſiſts in two periods, or bars of five crotchets each, which make two periods of eight notes: and I have divided that melody into two parts, in order to accommodate myſelf to the peculiarity of their verſe, each of which has eight ſyllables, and two of them complete the tune, as may be ſeen in the Appendix, No. I.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXI.

Influence of the northern Climate upon the Manners and Habits of the People—Hardſhips of living in the North, when compared to the ſouthern Countries—Occupations of the Finlanders in Winter—Their Methods of catching Fiſh—The Chaſe of the Bear—Mode of ſhooting the Squirrel—Dangers that attend the Chaſe of the Seal—An Inſtance mentioned of two Finlanders that were caſt away upon the Ice while in this Purſuit.

A TRAVELLER who viſits thoſe countries during winter, is apt to imagine that men, animals, and plants, are all conſigned to a profound ſleep: nor is it eaſy for him to conceive whence the natives derive the means of their ſubſiſtence. Seas, rivers, lakes, are all frozen up, and ſeem to ſhut out the neceſſary reſource of fiſhing; the birds fly from theſe inhoſpitable regions, and hence afford no ſuſtenance; the earth on all ſides covered with froſt and ſnow, is here converted into an inexorable priſon, confining all her fruits;—this univerſal nakedneſs naturally begets in the ſtranger an expectation of ſeeing everywhere poverty, want, and wretchedneſs: but one who has reſided among theſe people will find, that they are neither leſs awake, nor leſs active, nor worſe fed than the inhabitants of the South. The different ſeaſons here,

as

as every where elſe, give occaſion to different occupations analogous to the climate, and the nature of the country. It is neceſſary to have even more activity and induſtry in the northern diſtricts than in the ſoutherly ones, inaſmuch as the means of maintenance are more limited, while the wants of the natives are more preſſing. How many things are men in want of in the North, that are ſcarcely known in the South? In the North fur-gloves, caps, fur-boots, woollen cloths lined with furs, and ſnow ſhoes; theſe are not much known to the inhabitants of the ſouth of Europe, but are here articles of the firſt neceſſity. If to the variety of things which are required to cover the body, we add a greater appetite for food, and deſire for ſpirituous liquors; if we conſider the increaſed difficulties that the women have to undergo in rearing their children, we ſhall be ſenſible how arduous a taſk, for inſtance, a peaſant in the North has to perform in diſcharging the common duties of life. Compared to him, the very beggars of other countries live in eaſe and even luxury; nor can he be put upon a par, in point of comfort, with the famous lazaroni of Naples, who, though ragged or rather naked, eaſily obtain a living if they will but take a walk on the key, or ſaunter along the harbour, with no farther trouble than that of turning firſt their faces and then their backs to the ſun.

The inhabitants of the North, haraſſed by a much greater number of wants, muſt neceſſarily acquire a larger ſhare of activity in order to ſupply them; and from this circumſtance ariſe a thouſand little diverſities of character, which ſerve to diſtinguiſh them,

them, even in their moral habits, from the nations of the South. The peaſants during the winter are occupied, not only in the laborious performance of ſuch buſineſſes as are moſt advantageouſly accompliſhed when the earth is covered with ice and ſnow, but alſo in preparing for their neceſſary avocations during the ſummer. They employ themſelves in making nets, cutting wood, conſtructing cart wheels, and in tying up faggots for the fire. That of tranſporting things from one place to another, is one of the principal occupations of the Finlandiſh peaſantry in winter. They proceed to the foreſt and cut down timber for building, and making their ſledges, as well as for fuel and other purpoſes: they drag over fields of ice and ſnow ſuch enormous trunks of trees, as they could ſcarcely be able to move in ſummer.

Hunting and fiſhing are alſo avocations that are attended to in winter. Their mode of fiſhing is as follows: a couple of openings are made in the ice, and by means of ropes and long poles, they then contrive to paſs their nets from one opening to the other: the drawing out of the nets is attended with infinite labour. They have another method of fiſhing on the ice, which ſeemed to me extremely curious, at leaſt the novelty of it excited my ſurpriſe. It is in catching fiſh by a ſtroke of a mallet or club. In autumn, when the froſt begins to ſet in, the fiſherman courſes along the rivers; and when he obſerves a fiſh under the ice in ſhallow water, he ſtrikes a violent blow with his wooden mallet perpendicularly over the fiſh, ſo as to break the ice. The fiſh, ſtupified by the blow communicated to it by the water, in a few

ſeconds

ſeconds riſes quite giddy to the ſurface, where the man ſeizes it with an inſtrument made for the purpoſe.

I have, in the preceding part of this work, deſcribed the manner of hunting the ſeal; I have alſo mentioned the practice of catching fiſh when the water is frozen, by means of hooks. I ſhall now give ſome account of the mode of attacking the bear. This is a kind of ſport which requires great preſence of mind and intrepidity, and it muſt be acknowledged that the Finlander diſplays theſe virtues in an eminent degree.

It is but very lately that ſome few individuals have begun to uſe fire-arms in this chaſe; but there are ſtill many among the peaſantry, particularly in the inland part of the country, who will not expoſe their life to the uncertain ſhot of a muſket, which is ſo liable to be prevented by damp; nor be poſſeſſed of an inſtrument which they think too coſtly, even when of a very ordinary quality. The favourite weapon of the Finlander in hunting the bear, is an iron lance fixed at the end of a pole. At about the diſtance of a foot from the point of the lance is fixed a croſs-bar, which prevents the inſtrument from penetrating too far into the body of the bear, or paſſing through both ſides. When the Finlander has diſcovered where the bear has taken up his winter quarters, he goes to the place and makes a noiſe at the entrance of his den, by which he endeavours to irritate and provoke him to quit his ſtrong hold. The bear [illegible], and ſeems unwilling to come out; but continuing to be moleſted by the hunter, and perhaps by the barking of his dog, he at length gets up and ruſhes in fury from

To face p. 288. Vol. I.

Pye fec.

A Finlander attacking a Bear.

London. Published as the Act directs 2nd April 1802. by J. Mawman. Bookseller No 22 Poultry

from his cavern. The moment he ſees the peaſant, he rears himſelf upon his two hind legs ready to tear him to pieces. The Finlander inſtantly puts himſelf in the attitude which is repreſented in the annexed plate; that is to ſay, he brings back the iron lance cloſe to his breaſt, concealing from the bear the length of the pole, in order that he may not have time to be upon his guard, and conſequently to parry with his paws the mortal blow which the hunter means to aim at his vitals. The Finlander then advances boldly towards the bear, nor does he ſtrike the blow till they are ſo near each other, that the animal ſtretches out his paws to tear his antagoniſt limb from limb. At that inſtant the peaſant pierces his heart with the lance, which, but for the croſs-bar, would come out at his ſhoulder; nor could he otherwiſe prevent the bear from falling upon him, an accident which might be highly dangerous. By means of the croſs-bar the animal is kept upright, and ultimately thrown upon his back; but what may ſeem to ſome very extraordinary, is, the bear, feeling himſelf wounded, inſtead of attempting with his paws to pull out the lance, holds it faſt, and preſſes it more deeply into the wound. When the bear, after rolling upon the ſnow, ceaſes from the laſt ſtruggles of death, the Finlander lays hold of him, and calls for the aſſiſtance of his friends, who drag the carcaſe to his hut; and this triumph terminates in a ſort of feſtival, where the poet aſſiſts, and ſings the exploits of the hunter.

The Finlanders are employed in ſummer in cutting down their hay and corn; the laſt they threſh out in winter; they build their

boats, go a-fiſhing, frequently a-fowling, and in the ſpring time hunt the ſquirrel, which they kill with a wooden arrow ſhot from a croſs-bow, as is repreſented in the plate.

This figure of the bow is accurately copied from the original, which my friend Mr. Julin puchaſed, and brought with him when he returned from his excurſion into the interior of the government of Uleåborg: it has a ſtrong reſemblance to thoſe with which the Dalicarlian mountaineers were armed before the time of Guſtavus Vaſa. It is extremely heavy, and requires great ſtrength to bend it, even with the aſſiſtance of a thong which the Finlander carries about with him tied to his leather girdle. The ancient uſages, ſtill preſerved in the country, are an inconteſtable proof of the ſimplicity of the natives, and of the little knowledge they have acquired of our modern inventions. Theſe uſages are, however, worthy objects of the traveller's attention, and are now the more intereſting, becauſe they are falling every day into oblivion, giving place to others of recent date.

In ſhooting the ſquirrel they employ, as has been intimated, a ſort of blunt, pointleſs arrow, that they may kill the animal without injuring the ſkin: and what is deſerving of being noticed, they do not take aim as we commonly do, by bringing the handle of the croſs bow near the eye, but ſet it upon the belly; and yet by this method, which appears ſo awkward to us, they ſeldom or never miſs hitting the object. The arrow is too valuable to be loſt; for the moment it falls, it is picked up for another occaſion.

But the ſpecies of hunting which ſets the courage and enterpriſe

of

of the Finlander in the very ſtrongeſt light, is that of the ſeal, or *phoca vitulina* of Linnæus. The ſeaſon of this chaſe begins when the ſea breaks up, and the ice floats in ſhoals upon the ſurface. Four or five peaſants will place themſelves in an open boat, with one trifling maſt, ſet off to ſea, and be more than a month abſent from their families. Thus they expoſe themſelves to all the dangers of the high ſeas, have a ſmall fire which they kindle on a ſort of brick hearth, live upon the fleſh of the ſeal, which is extremely good, and bring home the fat and the ſkins. The perils which thoſe voyagers have to ſtruggle with are incredible: they are every inſtant between maſſes of ice which threaten to cruſh their bark to atoms: they get upon the floating ſhoals, and, creeping along them, ſteal cautiouſly upon the ſeal, and kill him as he repoſes on the ice. Seven years ago, two Finlanders only ſet out in a boat for this chaſe. Having got ſight of ſome ſeals on a little floating iſland, they quitted their boat, and got upon the ice, moving on their hands and knees to get near them without being perceived. They had previouſly faſtened their boat to the little iſland of ice they diſembarked upon; but while they were buſily engaged in their purſuit, a guſt of wind tore away their boat, when, meeting with other ſhoals, it was broken in pieces, and in a few minutes entirely diſappeared. The hunters were aware of their danger when it was too late: they were now left without help, without reſource, without a ray of hope, on their little floating iſland. They remained two weeks on this frail fragment; the heat which diminiſhed its bulk, and alſo its prominent ſur-

face, rendered their ſituation more alarming every moment. In the anguiſh of hunger, they gnawed the fleſh of their arms: they ſaw the gulf of death opening gradually under their feet; they embraced each other, determined to plunge together into the ſea, and put an end to their miſery, from which they had no proſpect of eſcaping: they had hailed the day for the laſt time, when they diſcovered a ſail. How great muſt have been their joy! One ſtript off his ſhirt, and ſuſpended it on the muzzle of their gun: the veſſel was a whale-fiſher which obſerved them; and putting out her boat, ſaved theſe two men from impending death.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XVI.

Some of the Manners and Cuſtoms of the Inhabitants of Finland deſcribed—Their Modes of Courtſhip—Ceremonies attending Marriage—The uſe of Vapour-Baths among the People at large, and eſpecially among the Peaſantry—Some Particulars of this Manner of bathing—The extraordinary Tranſition from Heat to Cold which the Finlanders can endure.

NOTHING could be more curious than to deſcribe the odd and fantaſtic cuſtoms of the northern nations, and the groſs indelicacies practiſed among them on certain occaſions: but I ſhall confine my remarks to their marriages and their baths. The peaſants of the province of Savolaxa, in Finland, have a very ſingular mode of making love. When a young man feels an attachment for a young woman, he commiſſions ſome aged dame to acquaint the object of his love with his paſſion, and at the ſame time he ſends her ſome preſents. The old woman chuſes as the proper moment for executing her commiſſion, that, when the girl is preparing to go to reſt. While ſhe is putting off her cloaths, the woman takes an opportunity of getting into her preſence, and beſtowing many praiſes upon the lover. When the girl has heard all ſhe has to ſay, the dame ſlips ſome preſent, perhaps a handkerchief,

chief, or ribband, or ſome piece of money, into her boſom. If the girl does not wiſh to have any correſpondence with her admirer, ſhe gives back the preſents to the mediatrix, who immediately conveys the unpleaſing intelligence to her employer. It is to be obſerved, however, that this firſt refuſal of the preſents is not deemed a deciſive proof of diſlike. The lover does not yet deſpair of ſoftening the heart of his miſtreſs: by a repetition of his attempts he may ſtill hope to accompliſh his object. The poſitive mark of an invincible diſapprobation and rejection, and after which there is no longer any further uſe in negociation, or room for hope, is, when the young woman, inſtead of giving the box containing the preſent back to the ambaſſadreſs with her hands, ſhe unlooſes the cincture that keeps her dreſs cloſe to her waiſt, and lets it fall between her breaſt and her ſhift down to the ground. But if, on the contrary, ſhe retains the preſent, then the young people conſider themſelves as engaged to each other, and nothing but the marriage ceremony is wanting in order to conſtitute them huſband and wife.

On the wedding-day, ſome peaſant among their neighbours, with the title of ſpeaker, or orator, does the honours of the feaſt. This orator is generally a perſon who is not only endowed with a natural talent for ſpeaking, but is alſo an *improviſatore*; for he is expected to make extempore verſes ſuitable to the occaſion, or any incidental circumſtances: but the moſt curious and intereſting ceremony of all, is that which takes place on the day after the marriage. All the gueſts being aſſembled, as on the day of the ceremony,

ceremony, the new married man is obliged to declare, whether or no he found his bride a virgin. If he anſwers in the affirmative, the orator, either in verſe or proſe, celebrates the happineſs of the young couple on the preceding night, and drinks to their health out of a clean, well ſcoured, and bright cup. If in the negative, there is on the table a dirty and mean veſſel, out of which he is obliged to drink. In the bottom of this utenſil is a hole out of which the liquor runs, and is ſpilt on the ground at one end, whilſt it is emptied by the orator at the other. He after this makes ſome remarks, and gives ſome counſels of no very pleaſing nature, to the bride. When the orator has finiſhed his harangue, in either of theſe caſes, he takes up a pair of the bridegroom's breeches, which are at hand for the purpoſe, and thumps the bride with them luſtily (but not on her head or the upper part of her body), ſaying, at the ſame time, "Be fruitful, wo-"man, and don't fail of producing heirs to your huſband!"

It is a general obſervation, and which admits of no exception, that in proportion as tribes or ſocieties of men are rude and ſimple in their manners, they are indelicate on the ſubject of that paſſion which unites the ſexes. That *pudor circa res venereas*, which Grotius held to be a univerſal ſentiment, and characteriſtic of the human ſpecies, in Otaheite has no exiſtence. There was a cuſtom which prevailed not a century ago in ſome parts of Scotland, and which, according to tradition, was once general, almoſt as groſs as that of the Finlanders. On the day after the wedding, when the marriage feaſt was continued, as in Finland, it was cuſtomary

for

for the bridegroom, creeping on all fours, to receive on his back a large pannier full of ſtones, which he was obliged to carry until the bride, in token that ſhe was no longer a maiden, came and relieved him of the heavy load, by throwing the pannier on the ground.

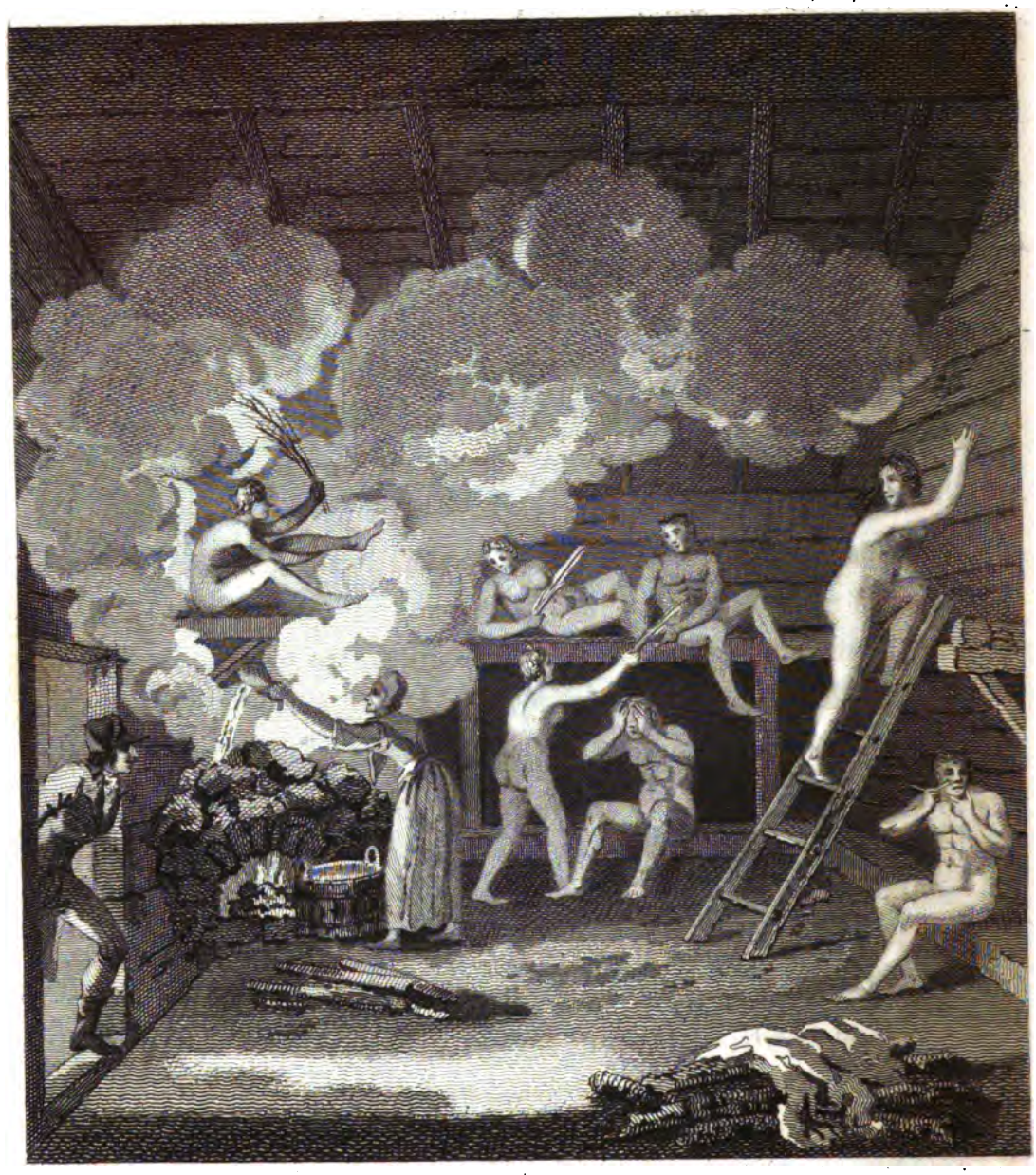
In one pariſh in Finland (one of theſe pariſhes, it is to be obſerved, is equal in extent to a whole province in moſt other countries) it is the cuſtom for young women to wear, ſuſpended at their girdles, the caſe or ſheath of a knife, as a ſign that they are unmarried, and would have no objection to a huſband. When a young man becomes enamoured with any of thoſe damſels, his manner of courting her is, to purchaſe, or cauſe to be made, a knife in the exact form of the ſheath, and to take an opportunity of ſlipping it into the ſheath ſlily without the girl's perceiving it. If the girl, on finding the knife in the ſheath, keep it, it is a favourable ſymptom: if not, it is a refuſal.

In the pariſh of Kemi, before the day appointed or propoſed for the marriage ceremony, the young people ſleep together for a whole week, but without quite undreſſing; and this is called, *the week of the breeches.* It will, no doubt, be immediately recollected by my readers, that this is an exact counterpart to the *bundling* of the Anglo-Americans. If, in conſequence of the familiarities that paſs during the "week of the breeches," their love be ſtrengthened, they marry; but if, on the other hand, their mutual affections be leſſened, the marriage does not take place.

Another particular that appeared very ſingular among the cuſ-

toms

To face p. 297. Vol. I.



A Finlandish Bath.

toms of the Fins, was their baths, and manner of bathing. Almoſt all the Finniſh peaſants have a ſmall houſe built on purpoſe for a bath: it conſiſts of only one ſmall chamber, in the innermoſt part of which are placed a number of ſtones, which are heated by fire till they become red. On theſe ſtones, thus heated, water is thrown, until the company within be involved in a thick cloud of vapour. In this innermoſt part, the chamber is formed into two ſtories for the accommodation of a greater number of perſons within that ſmall compaſs; and it being the nature of heat and vapour to aſcend, the ſecond ſtory is, of courſe, the hotteſt. Men and women uſe the bath promiſcuouſly, without any concealment of dreſs, or being in the leaſt influenced by any emotions of attachment. If, however, a ſtranger open the door, and come on the bathers by ſurpriſe, the women are not a little ſtartled at his appearance; for, beſides his perſon, he introduces along with him, by opening the door, a great quantity of light, which diſcovers at once to the view their ſituation, as well as forms. Without ſuch an accident they remain, if not in total darkneſs, yet in great obſcurity, as there is no other window beſides a ſmall hole, nor any light but what enters in from ſome chink in the roof of the houſe, or the crevices between the pieces of wood of which it is conſtructed. I often amuſed myſelf with ſurpriſing the bathers in this manner, and I once or twice tried to go in and join the aſſembly; but the heat was ſo exceſſive that I could not breathe, and in the ſpace of a minute at moſt, I verily believe, muſt have been ſuffocated. I ſometimes ſtepped in for

a moment, juſt to leave my thermometer in ſome proper place, and immediately went out again, where I would remain for a quarter of an hour, or ten minutes, and then enter again, and fetch the inſtrument to aſcertain the degree of heat. My aſtoniſhment was ſo great that I could ſcarcely believe my ſenſes, when I found that thoſe people remain together, and amuſe themſelves for the ſpace of half an hour, and ſometimes a whole hour, in the ſame chamber, heated to the 70th or 75th degree of Celſius. The thermometer, in contact with thoſe vapours, became ſometimes ſo hot, that I could ſcarcely hold it in my hands.

The Finlanders, all the while they are in this hot bath, continue to rub themſelves, and laſh every part of their bodies with ſwitches formed of twigs of the birch-tree. In ten minutes they become as red as raw fleſh, and have altogether a very frightful appearance. In the winter ſeaſon they frequently go out of the bath, naked as they are, to roll themſelves in the ſnow, when the cold is at 20 and even 30 degrees below zero.* They will ſometimes come out, ſtill naked, and converſe together, or with any one near them, in the open air. If travellers happen to paſs by while the peaſants of any hamlet, or little village, are in the bath, and their aſſiſtance is needed, they will leave the bath, and aſſiſt in yoking or unyoking, and fetching provender for the horſes, or in any thing elſe, without any ſort of covering whatever, while the paſſenger ſits ſhivering with cold, though wrapped up in a good ſound wolf's ſkin. There is nothing more wonder-

* I ſpeak always of the thermometer of a hundred degrees, by Celſius.

ful

ful than the extremities which man is capable of enduring through the power of habit.

The Finniſh peaſants paſs thus inſtantaneouſly from an atmoſphere of 70 degrees of heat, to one of 30 degrees of cold, a tranſition of a hundred degrees, which is the ſame thing as going out of boiling into freezing water! and what is more aſtoniſhing, without the leaſt inconvenience; while other people are very ſenſibly affected by a variation of but five degrees, and in danger of being afflicted with rheumatiſm by the moſt trifling wind that blows. Thoſe peaſants aſſure you, that without the hot vapour baths they could not ſuſtain as they do, during the whole day, their various labours. By the bath, they tell you, their ſtrength is recruited as much as by reſt and ſleep. The heat of the vapour mollifies to ſuch a degree their ſkin, that the men eaſily ſhave themſelves with wretched razors, and without ſoap. Had Shakſpeare known of a people who could thus have pleaſure in ſuch quick tranſition from exceſſive heat to the ſevereſt cold, his knowledge might have been encreaſed, but his creative fancy could not have been aſſiſted:—

Oh! who can hold a fire in his hand,
By thinking of the froſty Caucaſus?
Or wallow naked in December ſnow,
By thinking on fantaſtic ſummer's heat?

CHAPTER XXIII.

The national Poetry of Finland—Runic Verſes—Turn of the Finlanders for Poetry—Manner in which they recite their poetical Compoſitions—Specimens of Finniſh Poetry—A funeral Elegy on the Death of a Brother—An odd Tale, called the Paldamo-Paſty—The Females particularly addicted to the Amuſement of Poetry—The Jauho Runot, or Mill Songs—A beautiful Ode, or Elegy, by a country Girl, on the Abſence of her Lover—Lullaby of the Finniſh Nurſes—Songs intended for magical Purpoſes, and, among other Virtues, ſuppoſed alſo to poſſeſs that of healing Wounds, and curing Diſeaſes—This Superſtition prompts the Clergy to diſcourage the Runic Poetry in which it is clad—Probability ariſing from that Circumſtance, and others, of the Runic Poetry falling quite into Diſuſe.

THE ſun of literature caſt a feeble ray upon the mountains of Finland, long after it had enlightened the reſt of Europe: this ray has been, however, preſerved in the ſingle univerſity of Abo.

It has been frequently obſerved, that letters can only be cultivated in times of peace, and that the tumult and confuſion of war are inimical to the ſciences, which demand the retirement of academic

demic bowers, far diſtant from the din of arms. Finland had been conſtantly expoſed to the incurſions of its neighbours. The Finns were themſelves invaders in the beginning of the chriſtian era, and were afterwards in their turn invaded by their neighbours, the Ruſſians, the Swedes, and the Danes, who carried on a predatory war againſt them, laying all waſte in their incurſions. At length the Finns were at once converted and ſubjugated by the ſword of Eric the ninth, king of Sweden, who having, in the year 1156, made them the ſervants of the chriſtian religion, annexed their country to Sweden. From that time their ſituation became improved, and poetry, which even before that epoch had cheered "the dull abode of the ſhivering natives," extended its influence, and taking the lead of letters, was purſued by them with a diligence and ſucceſs, which, every thing conſidered, is very remarkable.

The ſpecies of verſe employed by them is called *runic*, from the ancient Gothic word *runoot*. It is compoſed of lines of eight trochees, or long and ſhort ſyllables, which do not rhyme with correſpondent endings, but are allitterative, or have like beginnings, that is to ſay, have two at leaſt or more words which agree in a letter or ſyllable. To explain this kind of verſe, we will give the reader a ſpecimen from the only poem exiſting in the Engliſh language compoſed in this allitterative ſtyle, which is "The Viſion of Pierce Plowman," a curious monument of ancient poetry, written in the fourteenth century, and printed for the ſecond time in 1550. The poem begins thus,

"In

" In a ſummer ſeaſon when ſet was the ſun,
" I ſchope me to ſhrubs, as I a ſheep were,
" In an habit as an hermit unholy of works,
" Went wide in this world wonders to hear, &c.

Thus in the following poem in the Finniſh tongue:

Nuco nuco pico linto
Weſſi weſſi weſter eki.

In the Engliſh lines the allitteration of the two firſt are of the letter S, of the third H, of the fourth W; and in the Finniſh the letter N in the firſt, and W in the ſecond. Verſes compoſed in rhyme were of later introduction; and when they fall in naturally with the runic, are not rejected; but ſtill they are not eſſential to the latter, and are therefore not ſought after. The repetition of the initial letters is very pleaſant to ears which are accuſtomed to it, and it is moreover perfectly agreeable to the genius of the Finniſh language, and of great aſſiſtance to the memory.

Runic poetry has been from the moſt ancient times cultivated by the peaſants of Finland, particularly by thoſe who inhabit Oſtro-Bothnia, and the territory of Cajanaborg. On the ſea-coaſts in the neighbourhood of Sweden, there are few Finlanders who underſtand or recite them, and fewer who compoſe them. The peaſants acquainted with this poetry prefer the oldeſt ſpecimens; and many of this claſs, unaſſiſted by letters, through the ſimple efforts of genius alone, aided by practice, are able to compoſe

runic

runic verſes upon a ſubject ſuited to their genius with a wonderful facility, after the manner of the Italian *improviſanti*. To this I have heard ſome men of learning, who are ſkilled in the Finniſh language, bear teſtimony.

There is ſcarcely any event, public or private, which does not find a poet amongſt the Finniſh peaſants to celebrate it. They condole the death of friends, rejoice with them on marriages, rehearſe tales, ſatires, &c. at their public meetings, in theſe runic verſes, often *extempore*, and often ſtudied for the occaſion, rarely committed to writing, and more rarely to the preſs. As to poems reciting the deeds of gothic heroes, and illuſtrating the monuments remaining of the times when they lived, none are to be found after the moſt diligent reſearches; nor are there any runic verſes known of an earlier date than the reformation of Martin Luther.

The manner in which they recite their verſes in public is ſingular, and ſaid to be derived from ancient practice. A circle is formed of the auditors, in the midſt of which ſtand the improviſator, and his repetitory coadjutor. Every line which the improviſator ſings or delivers, is repeated in the ſame tune by the coadjutor, who, taking up the laſt word, or the laſt but one, finiſhes the line with him, and then repeats it alone. This gives the improviſator time to prepare the ſucceeding line, which he ſings, ſeconded in like manner by his coadjutor; and thus they both proceed, the coadjutor always taking up the laſt words of the improviſator's line, and then repeating it by himſelf until the poem

is

is ended. During intervals, they recruit their ſpirits with beer or brandy, and ſometimes continue the improviſation to a late hour. Dancing not being very common amongſt the Finniſh peaſantry, their amuſement at fairs, or at their private meetings, conſiſts in theſe kind of ſongs, or recitations, ſometimes accompanied by the harp, if that inſtrument be at hand, when the harper ſupplies the place of the repetitor.

I ſhall now lay before my readers ſome ſpecimens of theſe poems, in which there will be obſerved much redundancy of expreſſion, the ſenſe being continued through two or more verſes, the phraſe only varied, as in the eaſtern compoſitions. The Finniſh tongue is peculiarly adapted to this kind of phraſeology, as it is highly copious, and abounding with ſynonymous words.

The firſt ſpecimen I ſhall produce is an extract from a poem, or funeral elegy, compoſed by *Paulo Remes*, a Finniſh peaſant, upon the occaſion of his brother's deceaſe. This poem was printed at Abo in 1765.

" The word went forth from Heaven; from Him in whoſe " hands are all things.

" Come hither, I will make thee my friend; approach, for " thou ſhalt henceforth be my companion. Come down from " the high hill; leave the ſeat of ſorrow behind thee; enough " haſt thou ſuffered; the tears thou haſt ſhed are ſufficient; thou " haſt felt pain and diſeaſe; the hour of thy deliverance is come; " thou are ſet free from evil days; peace haſteneth to meet thee; " relief from grief to come.

Thus

"Thus went he out to his Maker; he entered into glory; he "haſtened to extreme bliſs; he departed to enjoy liberty; he "quitted a life of ſorrow; he left the habitations of the earth."

Proverbs are the reſult of experience and wiſdom; and no nations, however barbarous, are found without them in their language. The Finniſh tongue has an abundance, many of them conveying ſtrong ſenſe and acute remark. They are for the moſt part in runic or allitterative verſe; and, like the Hebrew proverbs, are divided into two hemiſtichs, the latter illuſtrating the foregoing. The following are Finniſh proverbs, literally tranſlated:

"The good man ſpareth from his peck; but the wicked will "not give from a buſhel."

"The wiſe man knoweth what he ſhall do; but fools try "every thing."

"There is no deliverance through tears; neither are evils re-"medied by ſorrow."

"He who hath tried, goeth immediately to the work; but he "who hath no experience ſtandeth to conſider."

"The wiſe man gathereth wiſdom every where; he profiteth "by the diſcourſe of fools."

"A man's own land is his chiefeſt delight; the wood is moſt "pleaſant that is his."

"The ſtranger is our brother; he who comes from afar off is "our kinſman."

"When the morn breaketh forth, I know the day which fol-"loweth; a good man diſcovereth himſelf by his looks."

" The work is ended which is begun; there is time loſt to ſay,
" what ſhall I do?"

" The tool of the induſtrious man is ſharp; but the plough-
" ſhare of the fool wanteth grinding."

The following comical tale is a ſpecimen of Finniſh improviſation, by a young poet of the name of Vanönen, living between Waſa and Uleåborg. For this piece I am indebted, as I mentioned before, to the governor of Waſa, who was perſonally acquainted with the poet, by whom, at the governor's deſire, it was dictated to one who wrote it out. The governor ſet a great value on the original, and preſerved it as a moſt precious relic. I therefore think myſelf much obliged by the communication. The poet, he told me, was poor, becauſe he preferred the pleaſures of imagination to the duties of a peaſant and the labour of rural occupations. This young man, who can neither read nor write, has a native vein of humour, and is in his way very droll. He is of courſe heartily welcome in the houſes of the peaſants, whom he amuſes with his mirth and pleaſantry.

The PALDAMO conſiſts of about two hundred and forty-eight lines. The ſubject is a ridiculous retaliation, by a trick played upon a cuſtom-houſe officer, by a Finniſh peaſant. I have heard people intimately acquainted with the pure import and genius of the Finniſh language, in reading this poem, break forth with enthuſiaſm in its praiſe, and burſt into laughter almoſt at every line. The tranſlation, though literal, and rendered word for word, retains but little of thoſe beauties and that humour, which conſiſt in the brevity, preciſion and energy of the original language.

THE PALDAMO-PASTY:

A Finniſh Tale, by the Peaſant Vonönen.

" My tale is now ſet out in proper phraſe. I ſing the treat " which an inhabitant of Paldamo prepared for a commiſſary of " the cuſtoms; neither more nor leſs than a cat with the ſkin " and fur, which was baked and preſented to him for his ſupper.

" It was on a Sunday evening that the peaſants of the good " town of Paldamo were aſſembled together, and fell into diſ- " courſe about the inhabitants of the city of Uleåborg, whom " they all pronounced to be a pack of knaves, and more eſpecially " the cuſtom-houſe officers, for they were paid for eating, and " ſcrupled to pay for what they eat, for they plundered the ſledges " and robbed the travellers of their proviſions.

" Upon this (ſays a jolly old fellow of the party) I ſhould like " to take a little journey, if I could light upon agreeable compa- " nions: I ſhould wiſh once more to ſee our great city. I have " ſome tallow to ſell, and butter to diſpoſe of, notwithſtanding " the ſeaſon has proved ſo unfavourable." The peaſants all an- " ſwered with one voice, " We have all a deſire to take a trip to " Uleåborg; we will accompany you immediately into the low " grounds."

" Thus then ſpoke another boon companion, famous for his " droll ſtories: " To be ſure, ſays he, at Chriſtmas-time there is

" no work to be done, and I would go with you with all my " heart; but I bethink me how I ſerved one of theſe officers " lately, and I am rather fearful that I ſhall be known. You " muſt all underſtand that I went lately to Uleaborg, and had an " excellent piece of roaſt veal in my ſledge with me, which the " officers took away, though I told them I could not ſpare it, as " I was at a diſtance from home, and brought it with me to " eat in town whilſt I ſtaid there. All I could ſay availed me " nothing: thoſe greedy fellows were reſolved to have my roaſt " veal, and ſo they took it from me. Oh! to be ſure they are " ſad dogs, and plunder the peaſants of their proviſions at a ſhock- " ing rate.

" When I returned home, continued he, I told my wife how " I had been ſerved, and I got heartily ſcolded by her for it. What " a cowardly ſot you are, cried ſhe, why did you not break the " officer's head? Give him your roaſt veal truly! Give him the " devil to ſtuff his maw with!—Thus did my wife exclaim; but " what ſhe ſaid put a thought into my head! Ah! Ah! cried I, " my gentlemen! it ſhall not be long before I am even with you! " As I ſaid theſe words I ſnatched up our great cat by her hind " legs, and I preſently diſpatched her.—Now, ſays I, wife, put " ſome fire into the oven, and I will get ready ſome paſte, and " puſs ſhall be baked in a paſty.—As I ſaid this, my wife ſtopped " me—truly ſhe would have our cat's ſkin to line her pelice with! " Upon which I ſaid to her rather angrily—What, you are for " giving the rogues of officers a titbit, are you? If we ſtrip off

" the

"the cat's ſkin, theſe gentry will take our puſs for a fine Paldamo "hare, and grow more and more in love with our good things; "and thus the ſledges of our poor townſmen will never eſcape "being plundered: no, no, ſays I, they ſhall have the cat, ſkin "and all, and then they will ſee that we can be a match for their "thievery.

"My wife was not very well pleaſed to give up the cat's ſkin, "but ſhe was fain to comply, and ſo the cat was put into the "paſty with the ſkin on, and the paſty was put into the oven.

"When the paſty was baked, it was ſet by till morning, and "then clapped into a ſack, and away I ſet off merrily for Uleå- "borg. Upon the road I lighted upon a peaſant who was travel- "ling the ſame way. Says my new acquaintance, Can we croſs "the river by the bridge? I cannot tell you, anſwered I. But "when we came to the river ſide, we found orders had been given "to ſtop the paſſage over the bridge; for, ſays the carpenter, who "was hard at work upon the barricade, None of you peaſants of "Paldamo are to paſs this way.—So we croſſed the river over the "ice farther up, and when we came to the cuſtom-houſe I pre- "ſented the officer with a ſmall paſty out of my ſack. What "do you mean by this, ſays he; you do not ſurely intend to "make the firſt commiſſary of the cuſtoms ſo trifling a preſent "as this is! Come, come, I know you Paldamo peaſants are never "without a good large paſty of jack, or ſome other excellent fiſh; "give me the largeſt you have, one that will do credit to your "town. This, you muſt ſuppoſe, was juſt what I wiſhed to hear;

"ſo

" ſo out I lugged the large paſty that had the cat baked in it, and " I gave it to the officer, who was ſo well pleaſed, that he invited " the other peaſant and me to take a cup of coffee with him; " and ſo we did; and he gave us a glaſs of punch after it, and a " bumper of excellent brandy beſides; after which we took our " leave, and went our ways."

" Thus ends the peaſant's tale which he told to his neighbours " of Paldamo, and which I, *Vanönen*, have put into verſe for the " delight of all that ſhall hear it: and I ſuppoſe I ſhall get much " ſuch a preſent for my compoſition as the firſt commiſſary of the " cuſtoms had for his civility—one of puſs's hind legs; for the " officer eat the other, as you muſt next hear.

" The commiſſary Ritzi, for ſo this officer was named who had " received this noble preſent, was ſat down to his ſupper, and the " Paldamo-paſty was placed before him. He firſt cut off a ſlice " of the cruſt, which he taſted, and found very reliſhing and " good: he next pulled out one of the cat's hind legs. To be " ſure he ſcratched his mouth with the claws; but that he " thought might be the pike's teeth, for he ſuppoſed that the " paſty had a large jack in it, and the cat's hind leg before him " was the joke of the jack. At length he opened the paſty, but " what was his aſtoniſhment when he beheld a paſty with a baked " cat in it, ſkin, fur and all!

" He ſtamped, he raved, he ſwore—and at laſt he broke out " into theſe reflections—Who could have thought that a peaſant " of Paldamo would have preſented the firſt commiſſary of the

" cuſtoms

"cuſtoms with a cat baked in a paſty! What a wretch is man!
"Who knows not, if he live to grow in years, what he may
"chance to eat before he dies, when I, a young man, was very
"near devouring a cat with her ſkin and fur on.

"Thus endeth this tale, which I, the before-mentioned *Va-*
"*nönen*, have compoſed, and which all allow to end well, and
"with great ingenuity."*

* I will ſubjoin a verſion in Engliſh rhyme of the ſame poem, in which the literal meaning of the original has likewiſe been as faithfully retained as poſſible. It thus forms a droll ſort of a ballad.

THE PALDAMO-PASTY:

A Finniſh Tale, by the Peaſant Vanönen.

A ſtory, I remember well,
I once did hear, which now I'll tell;
For I, Vanönen, (you all know it,
A peaſant, and, what's more, a poet),
Did verſify it in a ſtyle,
That all who hear ſay 'tis worth while:
How that of cuſtoms the *Commis*
Was trick'd (none better trick'd could be)
With ſav'ry paſty of a cat,
That mouſe had often kill'd, and rat.
'Twas at Paldamo that a ſet
Of jovial peaſants once were met;
When ent'ring into merry chat,
Of neighb'ring towns, and this and that;
They all agreed, and did declare,
Knaves of more cunning any where,
In any town the country round,
Than Uleaborg's cou'd not be found;

And

The Finniſh word *kalakucko*, here tranſlated paſty, ſignifies a pye with fiſh baked in it of ſome ſort or other.

Uleåborg is ſituated in an extenſive plain on the river Uleå,

And if of them one worſe could be,
Commis of cuſtoms muſt be he.
The burghers, they were fain to cheat,
That they and families might eat;
But all thoſe officers had pay,
Yet peaſants coming in their way,
They of proviſions did bereave,
And ſcarcely ſaid them—" By your leave."
Now, ſays a peaſant, could I find,
Like you, companions to my mind;
My ſledge I wou'd this inſtant take,
And to that town a journey make:
I have ſome tallow yet to ſell,
And butter that will pay me well:
The peaſants all replied, " Agreed,
" To Uleaborg let's now proceed."
Hold there, my friends (cried a ſhrewd knave),
I muſt not go, for doubts I have;
I now bethink me of ſome pranks
Which I play'd there, will get no thanks:
For I muſt give you all to know,
It is not many months ago,
That I occaſion had to be
At Uleaborg, and took with me
As fine a piece of roaſted veal,
As you would wiſh for at a meal.
You know thoſe dogs—a fly *Commis*
Found it, and took it, ſirs, from me:
I begg'd, intreated, and I pray'd,
Said all I could, but all I ſaid,
Avail'd me not a ſingle jot,
Have it he wou'd, wou'd I or not.

I pleaded

which empties itſelf near to it in the gulf of Bothnia. That river is alluded to in the foregoing tale.

Chriſtmas is a ſeaſon of leiſure with the peaſants of Finland, as

I pleaded I was far from home,
To Uleaborg on bus'neſs come,
And that I brought with me this meat,
That I in town might of it eat;
Not paying merchants for my ſleeping,
I wou'd not they ſhou'd pay my keeping.
Howe'er my veal he took, don't doubt it,
And I was fain to go without it.
When I came home my wife did ſcold!
Two days her tongue ſhe wou'd not hold;
She call'd me fool and filly elf,
Said none was dup'd ſo as myſelf:
You are (at laſt ſhe ſaid) ſo haſty,
Give him your veal! give a cat-paſty!
Stop there, dear wife, and ſay no more,
You won't mend that, talk for an hour.
The words which ſhe that moment ſaid,
Had put a thought into my head,
A trick to play this ſaid *Commis*,
And ſerve him worſe than he ſerv'd me.
So puſs I took, and made her fit,
To put in paſte, or fix on ſpit:
But wou'd you think, my ſimple wife
Seeing our cat depriv'd of life,
Begg'd that the ſkin I'd let her take,
Lining for her pelice to make.
What! I exclaim'd, in angry fit,
You are for giving a tit-bit;
Puſs without ſkin, ſhou'd I now bake,
The *Commis* for a hare will take;
And our Paldamo's good things more
Grow fond of than he was before:

their corn is by that time threſhed, and the country covered with ſnow, every operation of huſbandry is at a ſtand.

No inconſiderable number of runic ſongs, and thoſe not of the

Our townſmen then will ne'er go free,
But plunder'd evermore will be:
No; puſs I'll bake as nature ſent her,
With ſkin, fur, all that nature lent her.
As I ſaid this, our puſs in haſte
I roll'd up neatly in a paſte;
The paſty bak'd, without delay,
To Uleaborg I took my way;
I croſs the river on the ice,
And reached the office in a trice,
And there I ſaw my good *Commis*,
And glad, be aſſur'd, I was to ſee.
Saluting, I my preſent make,
Taking from out my bag a cake:
What's this you've brought me here, cried he,
This is not ſurely meant for me;
Here, take your cake, I pray now, back,
You've ſomething better in that ſack;
You peaſants of Paldamo never
Come hither without ſomething clever;
I know, at home, you're ne'er without
Fiſh-paſties, either jack or trout:
Come, ſearch your bag, and ſet me down
One ſhall do credit to your town.
Thus ſpoke the *Commis*; you may ſwear,
Theſe words I was well pleaſed to hear;
So out I lugg'd, without demur,
Puſs in the paſty, ſkin and fur.
Better receiv'd no gift cou'd be;
Aye, this is ſomething like! cried he;
Now, my good peaſant, for the ſake
Of this, you muſt refreſhment take.

Coffee

leaſt merit in point of compoſition, are of the production of females of the claſs of Finniſh peaſantry.

Before the general uſe of wind and water-mills, corn was re-

Coffee I had; punch too he gave;
Brandy beſides he made me have.
My congees made, to town I went,
And left the *Commis* well content.
Paldamo's peaſant now has ended
His tale, by neighbour's well attended;
You too attention pay to verſes,
Peaſant Vanonen here rehearſes;
What gets Vanonen for his pains?
Gifts much like that the *Commis* gains;
Paſty of cat, or ſome ſuch matter:
But leſt you think I idly chatter;
And talk thus when my tale's not clos'd,
Becauſe I am to end it pos'd;
I now will haſten the concluſion,
And ſhew you Ritzi in confuſion;
Ritzi, I ſay, for ſo 'tis fam'd,
Our officer by all was nam'd.
The paſty you may think was not
At Ritzi's ſupper-time forgot;
For being large, ſuppos'd of fiſh,
It made at table the chief diſh.
The commiſſary tried the paſte,
And found it reliſh'd to his taſte;
Within the cruſt he made a hole,
And brought out what he thought a jole;
Jole of a jack, ſo he did gueſs,
'Twas the *hind-leg*, nor more nor leſs:
His mouth he ſcratch'd with puſs's claws,
"This fiſh had ſharp teeth in his jaws;"
And ſaying this, a doubt aroſe,
Which to clear up, on ſearch he goes:

duced to flour by the labour of the hands, either by pounding in mortars, or by grinding betwixt two ſtones. This was a daily taſk, and it fell to the woman's lot to perform it in Finland, as in other countries. During the long and dreary winters of that climate, they were engaged in this work at home, whilſt their huſbands abroad were either in purſuit of game, or employed in the neceſſary buſineſs of ſeeking wood, forage, &c.

To cheer their minds, and beguile their labour, ſuch of the women as were unable to invent ſongs, ſtudied the compoſition of new ones; whilſt others who were not ſo happy as to poſſeſs that talent, ſung thoſe they had learned, whether new or old. In

The paſty now is open laid,
And all the rogue's trick is diſplay'd;
But words I want now to expreſs
His rage, his fury, and diſtreſs;
He ſtamp'd, he ſwore, with paſſion ſtutter'd,
But calmer grown, theſe words he utter'd:
How wretched man! expos'd to cheats!
At meals who knows not what he eats!
This day it may be leg of cat,
To-morrow ſomething worſe than that;
Thro' life in all things thus he's cheated,
And moſt when beſt he thinks he's treated;
One truth he firmly may believe,
That death ſhall ſurely not deceive;
But howe'er ſumptuouſly he eat,
For worms at laſt will make him meat.
Thus ends Vanönen's tale, which you
Have liſten'd with attention to;
I truſt you think it well beſtow'd,
For all allow the moral good.

one

one of theſe a female peaſant deſcribes herſelf at work in theſe words:

Päiwat pyörin petkeleiſsä
Kiwen puuſſa kükuttelen.

Fix'd to this mill all day I ſtand,
And turn the ſtone with patient hand.

Theſe ſongs, called *jauho runot*, or *mill-ſongs*, are for the moſt part ſung to a ſlow plaintive air. If two women are employed at the mill, they are ſung in parts by both of them; but when they relieve each other, ſhe only ſings who works. Theſe ſongs are compoſed on a variety of ſubjects; ſometimes grave and ſerious, at other times ludicrous and ſatyrical; one while a love ſtory, and not infrequently the praiſes of ſome heroic action.

Love, which is the great buſineſs of the ſex, is, as may well be ſuppoſed, the topic upon which the energies of the Finniſh poeteſs are chiefly exerciſed; it is, however, not an eaſy matter to procure ſpecimens of theſe ſongs, as they are generally ſung by the young women at meetings, to which men are rarely or never admitted. Mr. Franzen of Abo preſented me with a ſong, the compoſition of a country girl, a native of Oſtro-Bothnia, and the ſervant of the magiſter or the clergyman of the village, where ſhe had conſtantly reſided. It is compoſed on the occaſion of her lover's abſence, in a ſtyle of natural ſimplicity, ſtrong ſentiment, and bold figure, to attain which, more cultivated underſtandings ſometimes labour in vain. The thought in the ſecond ſtanza, if not altogether

ther new to poetry, has ſomething in it very ſtriking, is prettily introduced and well turned. This little piece, conſidered as the production of a girl who could neither write nor read, is a wonderful performance. It is nature's poet delivering the dictates of her heart in the words which love has ſuggeſted, and " ſnatching " a grace beyond the reach of art." This Finniſh Sappho, amidſt all the ſnows of her ungenial climate, diſcovers all the warmth of the poeteſs of Leſbos. I ſhall lay before the reader two tranſlations of this ſong, the one in proſe, the other in verſe.

The following proſe tranſlation is as near the original as the Engliſh language can approach the Finniſh—

I.

" Oh! that my beloved were now here; That his well-known " figure were but before me! How ſhould I fly into his arms, And " kiſs him though his face were beſmeared with the blood of a " wolf! How ſhould I preſs his hand, Even though a ſnake were " twiſted round it!"

II.

" Alas! why have not the winds underſtanding? And why is " the breeze bereft of ſpeech? The winds might exchange ſenti- " ments betwixt my beloved and me. The breezes might every " inſtant carry my words to him and bring back his to me."

III.

" How then would the delicacies of the rector's table be ne- " glected! How inattentive ſhould I be to the dreſs of his daugh- " ter!

" ter! I ſhould leave every thing to attend upon my beloved,
" who is the dear object of my ſummer-thoughts, and winter-
" cares."

This verſion in rhyme is neither ſo cloſe as metaphraſe, nor ſo diſtant as paraphraſe.

I.

" Oh were my love but here with me!
" Cou'd I his well-known perſon ſee!
" How ſhou'd I fly to his embrace,
" Tho' blood of wolves diſtain'd his face;
" Preſs'd to my heart, his hand wou'd take,
" Tho' 'twere encircled by a ſnake.

II.

" Thoſe winds that whiſper thro' the wood,
" Why is their ſpeech not underſtood?
" They might exchange the lover's pray'r,
" And ſigh for ſigh returning bear.

III.

" Ill-cook'd the rector's meals wou'd be,
" Dreſſing his daughter wait for me;
" Whilſt kitchen, toilet, I forſake,
" And thought of my love only take;
" On that alone my care beſtow,
" My ſummer's wiſh, my winter's vow."

The

The laſt ſpecimen I ſhall produce of Finniſh poetry, of female compoſition, is the following fragment of a ſong of conſiderable length, which the Finniſh nurſes are accuſtomed to ſing to children in the cradle. It may be conſidered valuable, inaſmuch as it marks the genius of the nation. The words were taken down whilſt a nurſe ſung them and rocked her child to ſleep. The perſon who wrote down the words was well acquainted with the Finniſh tongue; but the woman knew no more than this part of the ſong, and no opportunity offered of obtaining the remainder. It is hoped no reader will be diſpleaſed at finding here ſuch a ſpecimen of genuine tenderneſs, ſimplicity, and piety, though in the form of a lullaby-ſong.

" Sleep on, ſleep on, ſweet bird of the meadow; Take thy reſt, " little redbreaſt, take thy reſt; God ſhall awake thee in his own " good time; He has made thee a little bough to repoſe thee on; " A bough canopied with the leaves of the birch-tree; Sleep ſtands " at the door, and ſays; The ſon of ſleep ſtands at the door, and " ſays; Is there not a little child here; Lying aſleep in the cradle; " A little child wrapt up in ſwaddling cloths; A child repoſing " under a coverlet of wool."—

The laſt ſpecies of poetry, of which we ſhall make mention, is that which is common both to the Finns and Laplanders; we mean thoſe runic verſes which are ſuppoſed to be endowed with magical and extraordinary virtues. Theſe ſongs, which owe their

riſe

riſe to the darkneſs of gentiliſm, were not ſilenced when thoſe nations became enlightened by the goſpel; they were even interpolated in the times of papal ſuperſtition for the purpoſe of deluding the people; and theſe will probably be the laſt of the runic verſes that will be forgotten, as notwithſtanding all the induſtry of the clergy to root out ſuch prejudices from the minds of the people, the Finns ſtill privately favour and countenance theſe ſongs, being ſtrongly of opinion, that they are poſſeſſed of ſecret virtues, and have a ſuperior degree of efficacy when employed.

In point of compoſition they are conſidered by many as ineſtimable monuments of antiquity, and perfect models of genuine runic poetry. They are diſtinguiſhed by their admirers from the common runic verſes ſung at public meetings, which by them are accounted profane. Some of a ſpecies named *lugut*, or lectures, are never ſung, but delivered privately in a low murmuring voice, accompanied with horrid geſticulations.

The Finns have many runic verſes which are ſuppoſed to contain healing powers, and thoſe are ſtyled *ſanat*, or charms; as *madan-ſanat*, charms for the bite of a ſerpent; *tulen-ſanat*, charms to cure ſcalds or burns; *raudan-ſanat*, charms to heal wounds, &c. &c.

Theſe charms, as has been already obſerved, are very numerous; and though not much eſteemed by the inhabitants of the ſea-coaſt, are in the higheſt repute amongſt thoſe who dwell in the interior and mountainous parts of the country. This is likely to continue to be the caſe, as long as the practice of phyſic re-

mains in the hands of itinerant empirics and ignorant old women. They jointly with charms uſe ſome ſimple remedies, as ſalt, milk, brandy, lard, &c. but attribute the cures they perform to the ſuperior efficacy of the verſes they ſing during the application; the chief theory and foundation of their practice conſiſting in a belief, with which too they impreſs their patients very ſtrongly, that their complaints are occaſioned by witchcraft, and can only be removed by means of thoſe incantations.

Of theſe charms it is not eaſy to obtain ſpecimens, as they who are verſed in them are unwilling to communicate them to literate men, eſpecially when they ſee them prepare to commit them to writing, as they fear to be reported to the magiſtrate or clergyman, and puniſhed, or at leaſt chided for their ſuperſtition. It is a pity the clergymen will not be at the pains of diſcriminating betwixt the verſes, which are the production of ſuperſtition, and thoſe of an innocent nature. So far are they from attending to this particular, that they do their utmoſt to diſcourage runic poetry in general, and without exception; which partly on that account, and more owing to the natural changes which a length of time brings about in all human affairs, are rapidly falling into diſuſe, and in a few years will be only found in the relations of travellers.

The intelligent reader will have remarked the perfect ſimilarity betwen theſe ſongs of the Finlanders and thoſe of the early Grecians: the ſame ſimplicity of compoſition, dictated by identity of occupation. Almoſt every profeſſion among that gay, lively, and incomparable people, had its peculiar ſong. Specimens handed

down

down from the remoteſt antiquity might be adduced, of thoſe ſung by grinders of corn, by lovers, and by nurſes, quite in conformity with the Finniſh ſongs which precede. But it is unneceſſary; for as the ſame cauſes are found invariably to produce the ſame effects, ſo muſt the manners of rude and uncultivated people be always the ſame. If there be any cauſe for admiration, it will ariſe in finding ſo little difference of manners and ſentiments between the inhabitants of the coldeſt regions, and thoſe living in temperate and the moſt genial climates.

CHAPTER XXIV.

Departure from Uleåborg—Difficulty of travelling to the North Cape, through Lapland in Summer—Plan adopted by the Author and his Friends—Preparations for the Journey: an Acceſſion of two fellow Travellers—Affecting Farewell—Journey purſued—Deſcription of a Finlandiſh Dance—Some Specimens of Muſic—Amuſement at Hutta—Arrival at Kemi.

THE time was now approaching when we were to take leave of our friends, and profecute our intended travels to the North Cape. This journey appeared to every body at Uleåborg chimerical, and a project that would be found impracticable on experiment. Every perſon of our acquaintance pictured Lapland to us in the moſt frightful colours: they aſſured us from authorities true, or ſuppoſed to be true, that in ſummer it was abſolutely impoſſible to find a road, or to paſs from one place to another. Our friends conſoled themſelves, in the proſpect of our departure, with the idea, that we ſhould ſoon ourſelves be convinced of the impracticability of our plan, and being diſcouraged by the firſt obſtacles we ſhould meet with, they ſhould ſoon have the pleaſure of ſeeing us again on our return to Uleåborg.

In the courſe of our ſtay here we had ſtudied to obtain information

mation reſpecting this journey from every perſon we could hear of who had viſited Lapland; we wrote to a merchant at Torneå; we procured intelligence from ſome clerical miſſionaries, who had been in Lapland; but there was not one individual who could give us the ſmalleſt advice, as to the manner or even the poſſibility of travelling in that country in ſummer. They all had been there in winter only, and had travelled in ſledges drawn by reindeer: the miſſionaries, in like manner, reſide there only in winter, and return for the ſummer to villages which have an open communication with ſome town. There was not an individual who could furniſh us with a diſtinct idea, or any ſatisfactory information on the ſubject. All ſeemed, to a man, to be firmly of opinion that the journey was not to be accompliſhed. They knew perfectly well how we might get to Upper Torneå, to Kengis, to Kollare; but no mortal could tell us how it was practicable to penetrate the length of Muonioniſca. They were pretty accurately acquainted with the road that leads to the church of Jukasjervi, and a lake which forms the ſource of the river Torneå; but we choſe to avoid this route, which different travellers had gone before us, and which is already ſufficiently known. We were reſolved to follow the footſteps of no one, but to trace out a line of road for ourſelves, or not to engage in it at all. It was our plan to keep as much as poſſible in a line of the meridian to Torneå, and proceed towards the North Cape in the ſtraighteſt direction poſſible. In order to gain our object, it would be neceſſary to leave the river Torneå, to follow the courſe of the Muonio,

nio, at all events to reach Muonioniſca, and from Muonioniſca to direct our ſteps towards Kautokeino. Having arrived at Kautokeino, we ſhould find ourſelves on the borders of a river which falls into the Frozen Ocean; and we preſumed, that having embarked on this ſtream we could glide down all the way to the gulf of Alten, with the ſame eaſe as the water of the river itſelf. That having got to Alten, we ſhould certainly penetrate to the North Cape, either by water or on foot, and return by the ſame, or ſuch other way as circumſtances and our topographical information might recommend as the moſt convenient and ſure.

The whole of this ſcheme of travel, which we meant to purſue, was regarded as a *caſtle in the air*, reared by an Italian, who had lightly taken it into his head that Lapland was juſt ſuch another country as Italy; and who was wholly in the dark as to thoſe difficulties which are met with in a diſtrict ſo far to the north. Our propoſed enterpriſe had given occaſion to much converſation in the neighbourhood of Uleåborg, and people ſhewed much curioſity to ſee us. Mr. Julin, a good naturaliſt, and poſſeſſed with a ſtrong deſire of acquiring farther knowledge and information, being tempted by our plan, and the confidence he repoſed in us, and ſuffering himſelf to be perſuaded by our importunities, conſented to accompany us, and to divide with us our pleaſures and pains. Mr. Caſtrein, miniſter of Kemi, a man extremely well informed, and a botaniſt, ſeemed alſo diſpoſed to join the party; and thus our hopes of ſucceſs in the undertaking were very conſiderably raiſed. We were proud of having made two ſuch important

important acquisitions, and we appeared in our own eyes to have half conquered the difficulty of reaching the North Cape. Influenced by these cheering ideas, we made the necessary arrangements for our journey.

We purchased a Russian tent to shelter us from the rain and the inclemencies of the weather; and laid in a stock of provisions for twenty days. This consisted of bread, biscuit, cheese and dried flesh of the rein-deer, with a cask of brandy. We provided ourselves with a double barrelled gun, a thermometer of Celsius, a map by Hermelin, and another by Pontoppidon; a compass which also marked the hour, a box for the reception of insects, tobacco, sulphur, and camphire for the preservation of birds and skins. By way of presents for the Laplanders we took nothing but brandy and tobacco; the former of these articles being of all others the most acceptable present you can bestow.

Our departure from Uleåborg brought out all the ladies and gentlemen of our acquaintance. They formed a sort of procession, which accompanied us all the way to the boat that was to carry us to the other side of the river. It was at ten o'clock at night, on the 8th of June, 1799, when the sun still shewed himself above the horizon. Our last farewell was tender and affecting; and my departure from this town will be a moment in my life ever grateful to my recollection. In those countries a man is not ashamed of the tears of friendship: he seeks not concealment when sentiment excites the emotions of grief or joy.

Having landed on the opposite side of the river, we pursued our

journey

journey in a kind of waggon or cart drawn by horſes. The place where we croſſed the mouth of the river is about two thouſand yards broad; there are boats for the purpoſe of carrying travellers over, with accommodation for a carriage and horſes. Here the women perform the avocation of boatmen.

We changed horſes at Sukuri, nine miles from Uleåborg: the road was very good, though always in the midſt of woods and meadow grounds, called by the Swedes *äng*, or *ing*, from whence is obviouſly derived the Engliſh word *inge*. In thoſe countries meadows do not conſiſt, as in other places, of open grounds without trees, but are in general covered with bruſh-wood and ſhrubbery, to which they ſend their cattle to paſture on the narrow pieces of graſs that run through theſe meadows. The great woods, in which there are trees of enormous ſize, ſerve as a common paſture to all the peaſantry of the neighbourhood. They conſtantly hang a bell about the horſes' necks, and let them run about in the woods for four months, without giving themſelves the leaſt trouble concerning them. We changed horſes about four times after leaving Sukuri, before we got to Teſtile, a place conſiſting of two or three wooden houſes. The above four ſtages are too inſignificant to merit any farther notice.

Having croſſed a ſmall river named Leivaniemi, in a ferry-boat, the ſcraping of a fiddle invited us to enter the hut of a peaſant, ſtanding on the left bank, where ten or twelve country people were dancing with all their might. Our entrance interrupted the dance, and the ſurpriſe occaſioned by the novelty of

our

our appearance ſeemed at firſt to lay ſome degree of reſtraint upon the dancers. The only one among them who ſhewed he was not to be diſcompoſed was the fidler, who continued diligently in the practice of his calling; for he was blind, and conſequently knew nothing of what happened around him. Theſe peaſants, however, ſoon became familiar with our foreign aſpect; and being entreated to proceed and ſhew us their dance, they reſumed their places.

Their dancing conſiſted in the moſt ruſtic jumping, without the ſmalleſt grace, mixed with certain capers; in executing which the women made their petticoats fly about in the air. There was no variety in their ſteps, nor paſſion in their attitudes, nor expreſſion in any one of their countenances. They danced with the ſame earneſt diligence that would have influenced them in the performance of any thing by which they were to have gained their bread. The only variety that entered into this exerciſe, was a difference in the poſition of their arms, which they alternately laid one over the other, in a very aukward manner, without diſcovering the moſt diſtant notion of taſte or natural grace. It was ſomewhat curious to obſerve thoſe people amuſing themſelves with ſuch a ſerious air, and without even having the ſmalleſt diſpoſition to ſmile. A pot of beer was placed upon the table, which every body might make free with, but was uſed only to quench thirſt. It was ſo weak, however, and reduced ſo much with water, that it could neither ſtupify the ſenſes, nor raiſe the ſpirits of the company. Every creature, even the muſician was quite ſober,

a very rare thing at a feſtival of Finlandiſh peaſants, where they generally regale themſelves pretty liberally with brandy. This party of pleaſure apparently inſpired ſo little mirth, that one could not help believing that the people danced from a ſenſe of duty. In the number of ſix or ſeven women, which the female ſociety was compoſed of, there was not one tolerable, or capable of exciting the ſmalleſt ſenſation of tenderneſs. They had coarſe and vulgar faces, with ſhapes ill-turned; and did not ſuggeſt the ſlighteſt idea of any thing pleaſing or graceful. The long waiſt of their clothes, with very ſhort petticoats, contributed ſtill more to render their figure diſagreeable.

After having looked at their manner of dancing for ſome time, I took out my port-folio to note down the muſic. Scarcely had they ſeen me begin to write when they left off dancing, and came to ſee what I was doing. The blind fidler was unable to gueſs the cauſe of thoſe interruptions, which diverted their attention from his muſic, and made them forget their dance. They at laſt let him into the ſecret, and we aſked him to play us a couple of Finlandiſh dances, the moſt truly national in his collection. He gratified our curioſity, and I ſucceeded in taking down the tunes, which the reader will find in the Appendix.

After making a ſmall preſent to the blind man, we withdrew from the *ball-room*, and mounted upon our waggon to proſecute our journey. The blind fidler, however, was ſo ſenſibly touched with our ſmall preſent, that he got up, and under the conduct of all the dancers, not only followed us out of the houſe, but a good

good part of the way, conſtantly entertaining us with the beſt muſic he had.

In our progreſs from Teſtile we were to change horſes at Hutta, a ſmall village of four or five houſes, where they have one apartment for the accommodation of paſſengers. Bad weather and the fatigues of the journey determined us to paſs the night in this place. As it was ſtill too early to go to bed, we ſtudied to employ this interval in the beſt manner we could. Some peaſants and girls of the neighbourhood, prompted by curioſity to look at us, entered our chamber without ceremony. As we had ſome inſtruments of experimental philoſophy along with us, we wiſhed to give the good people ſome amuſement: but the firſt object that attracted the admiration of the men and young people, was my double barrelled gun: they ſhewed ſuch aſtoniſhment at this invention, that I am ſure I could have purchaſed with it the houſe and all the women in it. They aſked me how much I had paid for it, and gueſſing the price beforehand, one of them ſaid to me, "At leaſt one thouſand rix dollars." They all exclaimed, "With "ſuch a weapon the old man in the pelice (meaning the bear), "would have no chance." We ſhewed them our thermometer, a teleſcope, and laſt of all, to put an end to their oh! oh's! among other exclamations of wonder, we produced a microſcope. We prefaced this entertainment, however, by obſerving to them, that before we could afford them any pleaſure with this inſtrument, they muſt catch us a flea. The whole company fell a laughing at this demand, but perceiving that we were ſerious, and

perſiſted in our requeſt, the young men began to examine their ſhirts, as well as thoſe of the girls, and there was a general hunt for the little animal we wanted. The poor flea was never chaſed with ſo much anxiety as on the preſent occaſion. One of the girls withdrew for a little, and ſoon returned holding faſt her prey. We ſtrung the victim upon the needle of the microſcope, and ſhewed it to our audience. It is impoſſible to expreſs the geſtures, the exclamations, the cries of admiration, which the ſight of this animal of wondrous ſize drew from them. Luckily the inſtrument was of no great conſequence, or I ſhould have thought it in much danger of being broken in a thouſand pieces. Our ſpectators, male and female, ſnatched it out of one another's hands with the moſt aſtoniſhing impatience. They never ſeemed tired of examining the different limbs and form of the little animal, accuſtomed to live at their expence.

From Hutta to Kemi is about eighteen miles, which we accompliſhed on Monday the 10th of June.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXV.

The Miniſter of the Pariſh of Kemi—Environs of this Town—The River near Kemi: Danger of navigating it—The Church, a magnificent Building—Striking Contraſt it makes with the miſerable Huts around it—Walk from Kemi to a ſhort Diſtance to look at ſome Church Bells—Experiment tried by the Author of a Finlandiſh Vapour-Bath—Some Intelligence relative to Botany and Entomology—Departure from Kemi, and arrival at Torneå.

WE were lodged at Kemi in the houſe of Mr. Caſtrein. This gentleman, whom I had not ſeen before, though I had heard much of him at Uleåborg, was the perſon who propoſed to attend us on our northern expedition. He is a man of extreme gentleneſs and politeneſs of manners, and is poſſeſſed of much knowledge, though without pretenſion to it, and without being aware of his own merit. He ſpeaks Latin well, French a little, and underſtands German. Latin and German were the languages we preferred for our converſation. Mr. Caſtrein is the firſt miniſter of the pariſh of Kemi; and he has the ſuperintendence of a country comprehending about nine hundred Engliſh miles ſquare. Beſides his wife and children, he has eleven brothers and ſiſters to ſupport: by this numerous family he is looked up to as their common

mon father, and the moſt perfect harmony reigns among all its members.

We were two days at his houſe, and in different excurſions viſited the environs of Kemi, which, compared with thoſe of Ulcåborg, appeared like a paradiſe. The proſpect is more diverſified, the grounds are bolder, here and there ſwell into little hills, and are by no means ſo flat and ſandy as in the vicinity of the former city. Here the river is conſiderably broad, nor is it without danger, inſomuch that at Kemi and other places they have pilots to navigate their trading veſſels to its junction with the ſea. In ſome places there is not a ſufficient depth of water for boats of a large ſize. Two years ago a merchant in the neighbourhood wiſhed to conſtruct a much larger boat than had ever been ſeen before on this river; and he conceived it would be very feaſible to float it down when the river happened to be overflown. The boat was laden with grain, and had ſome perſons on board: it fortunately eſcaped the three principal dangers, or falls, and had only to paſs two more, which they conſidered of leſs conſequence; but the boat ſtruck, was daſhed to pieces, and many lives were loſt. A large portion of the wreck remains in view to this day between the rocks of Kemi, ſerving as a melancholy memorial of this unfortunate enterpriſe, and as a warning to the imprudence and avidity of projectors and merchants.

The river Kemi abounds in ſalmon; and their fiſhery is ſo lucrative as to afford a principal part of the miniſter's income, amounting to more than a thouſand rix dollars annually. Oppo-

ſite

ſite to the church, and in the middle of the river, is a ſmall iſland, where the inhabitants of Kemi hold a fair once a year, at which they ſell and exchange ſalmon, either for money or for other articles.

The church is an edifice which offers a ſingular and ſurpriſing contraſt to a foreigner travelling in this country, where he would not expect to ſee any public building in the ſtyle of regular architecture, and in all reſpects worthy of one of our own towns. This ſtructure being of ſtone, muſt have coſt an immenſe ſum, conſidering the few reſources of thoſe poor people, who could eaſily diſpenſe with ſuch an expenſive building, and pray to the Deity as effectually in a wooden temple. The deſign of this church was made by the academy at Stockholm, and was honoured with the approbation of Guſtavus III. It is adorned with a dome or cupola, and three principal entrances, with doric pillars, and hence has the appearance of a Grecian temple. Placed in thoſe ſavage regions, in the midſt of woods of fir trees, and contraſted by the ſcattered, contemptible huts around, it forms a wonderful and ſtriking object.

It is with ſincere pain I muſt here remark, that cloſe to this magnificent temple I entered the hut of a poor Finlander, the diminutive ſize and external meanneſs of which had attracted my notice. He was probably the pooreſt native of Finland I had met in the courſe of my travels to this place: the ſpace of ground on which his houſe ſtood was twelve ſquare feet, and the roof ſix in height. This unfortunate man had a complaint in one of his hands, which rendered him unfit to gain his livelihood by labour.

labour. His wife was making their bread, and had heated the oven to bake it; the bread contained ſo much ſtraw, and ſo little meal, that in order to make the dough adhere, ſhe was obliged to uſe a wooden frame, ſuch as is employed in making cheeſe. He had neither field, nor cow, butter, milk, nor animal food, and was exiſting in the moſt deplorable condition. I confeſs the preſence of thoſe doric pillars, contraſted with ſo much poverty and miſery, irritated my feelings to ſuch a degree, that I ſhould not have been ſorry to ſee them a heap of ruins. To what purpoſe this parochial magnificence, while the pariſhioners themſelves remain in a ſtate of ſtarvation! "Down," ſaid I within myſelf, "down with the pillars, cupola, and temple; give again to theſe poor wretches their wonted humble place of devotion, and inſtead of waſting treaſure on idle ſhow, beſtow it in cultivating the ſoil and giving them ſubſiſtence."

Nothing in ſociety can be the ſource of more melancholy to a feeling mind, than a quick and violent contraſt of extreme poverty and luxury. I remember to have experienced ſimilar mournful reflections on the inequalities among men in the courſe of my travels through the Britiſh dominions. It was in Ireland, where, happening to be with a hunting party, I perceived a hut formed from a dunghill; on looking within, I ſaw naked children ſleeping without any ſort of covering for their bodies, with their father, their mother, and with hogs: and what ſupported this miſerable hovel? A wall of ten feet high, which ſurrounded "his honour's" park. With regard to the poor Finlander, of whom I have been ſpeaking,

ing, I communicated my impreſſions to Mr. Caſtrein, who was affected by my deſcription, and promiſed to take care of that unhappy family.

One of the wonders which our new friends were deſirous to ſhew us in our walks about Kemi, was a bell that was intended to be fixed in the dome of the new church. We were accompanied thither by Mr. Caſtrein's ſiſters, and our expedition was conſidered as a kind of ſacred viſit. The great object of our curioſity turned out to be a couple of bells of a moderate diameter: they were loaded with a number of Finlandiſh inſcriptions. The place where they were, was but at a little diſtance from the miniſter's houſe. Moſt of our party, ourſelves excepted, were perfectly acquainted with the language of Finland; and the ladies undertook to read the inſcriptions, and tranſlate them into Swediſh. The prettieſt girl in the company immediately read aloud, "*Catzo*," &c. &c. Scarcely had ſhe pronounced the word, when we began to laugh like fools, and the ladies, ignorant of the cauſe of our mirth, thought that *catzo* muſt be a very laughable word, and therefore never ceaſed repeating it in the whole courſe of our walk, at table, in converſation, and on all occaſions. Let the reader judge what ſort of effect this word, ſo often repeated by the company, muſt have produced on the ears of two Italians. *Catzo*, in Finlandiſh, ſignifies *here is*.

Mr. Caſtrein, who wiſhed to inſtruct me in all the Finlandiſh cuſtoms, aſked me if I had ever bathed according to the uſage of the country; and being anſwered in the negative, ſaid, we ſhould

then take the bath together, that I might become more familiar with the manners and cuſtoms of the natives. The ſtones in the ſmall apartments of the bath were accordingly heated, and a young girl of eighteen years of age, who had the office of attending, informed us when every thing was ready. After we entered the bath, the girl firſt ſtripped us naked, and then began to throw water as uſual upon the ſtones. She preſented us with a baſon of cold water, and birch rods, with which we were to ſwitch ourſelves. Feeling as a ſtranger, I was quite out of countenance at my preſent ſituation, but ſtrove to keep up my ſpirits by conſtantly turning my eyes towards my companion, and endeavouring to imitate, as much as poſſible, his moſt exemplary indifference. The heat of the vapour roſe to fifty degrees of Celſius: at firſt I felt a violent oppreſſion, and had it quickly augmented, I believe, naked as I was, I ſhould have made my eſcape from the bath; but forcing myſelf to perſevere, I became gradually accuſtomed to it, and after ſome time was able to ſupport a heat of 65 degrees. Under this heat it was an extreme pleaſure to throw water upon the head, and to feel it running all over the body. The birchen rods were garniſhed with leaves, and by dipping them in the baſon of cold water, and afterwards laſhing the body, one enjoys nearly the ſame ſenſation. Having been about half an hour in the bath, my friend Caſtrein, as I declined being the firſt to ſubmit to all the uſual diſcipline of the place, entered upon the proceſs without delay, in order that I might ſee how I ought to conduct myſelf in my turn. The girl gave him a little ſtool to ſit upon,

threw

threw cold water upon his head, ſqueezed his hair, and with ſoap and water waſhed his whole body, and rubbed him down to the girdle. She then went to his feet, and rubbed his legs completely, particularly his ankles, and the tendon achillis. Meanwhile I was extremely attentive, and almoſt ſtupified at the whole operation: but what aſtoniſhed me moſt was the perfect apathy with which the miniſter endured this long and ſtimulating proceſs. When it came to be my turn to ſubmit, I found myſelf in a ſtate of extreme embarraſſment—and at laſt I was very glad to get on my clothes, and walk out of the bath. At quitting it, we made a preſent of ſome halfpence to the girl: this is a very ancient cuſtom, to which every individual invariably conforms, and is obſerved even by a maſter towards his ſervant, as in the preſent inſtance. This preſent has a particular appellation in the language of Finland, namely *ſauna raha*.

Before we take our leave of Kemi, it is proper I ſhould give ſome account of our botanical excurſions. Mr. Caſtrein is an excellent botaniſt, though he follows this purſuit more as an amuſement than a branch of ſtudy. It is to him that the ſcience is indebted for the diſcovery of a famous plant, viz. *cypripedium bulboſum*, which was firſt ſeen by Rudbeck, in the year 1685, but had never been found ſince by any botaniſt, not even by the great Linnæus, who paſſed this way in July, and conſequently a month after it had been in flower. This plant ſkulks among the underwood and fir-trees, which ſurround the church of Kemi. It modeſtly eludes the prying eyes of the paſſenger, and loves the tem-

perate enjoyment of the ſun's rays, which can only reach it by inſinuating themſelves between the branches of the buſhes that overſhadow it. Dr. Smith, Preſ. L. S. has given us a coloured figure of it extremely accurate and lively, which the reader may ſee and admire in his collection of rare plants. This is one of the rareſt as well as moſt beautiful productions of the North; it is indigenous in the pariſh of Kemi. Hitherto it has been diſcovered no where elſe, except, as I have been informed, in North America. The other plants in flower which we obſerved in this neighbourhood, are the following:

Daphne mezereum
Vaccinium myrtillus
Lychnis dioica
Viola paluſtris
Viola canina
Viola tricolor
Ranunculus acris
Trollius Europæus
Caltha paluſtris
Arbutus uva urſi
Pinus abies

INSECTS.

Cimex lacuſtris
Hunerobius lutorius
Tipula juniperina

As Mr. Caſtrein, from his love to botany, and a hope of diſcovering new plants in the deſerts of Lapland, had reſolved to attach himſelf to our expedition, we accordingly ſet out altogether from Kemi, and arrived at Torneå the ſame day. We changed horſes only once, which was at Leivaniemi, and we met with nothing worth mentioning on the whole road to Torneå, except the ravages which the inundations of the rivers had made this year, by throwing

throwing down all the bridges, and overflowing a vaſt tract of the ſurrounding country. Spring-time, which in other countries is the ſeaſon that brings along with it every thing grateful and of good preſage, is here the forerunner of misfortune, and frequently of the moſt terrible diſaſters. The ſnow, as it melts on the tops of the mountains, produces enormous ſwells in the rivers, which, breaking up the ice, hurry along with them vaſt maſſes, heaped one upon another. Theſe tear down, ſweep before them, and lay waſte every thing they meet in their courſe which may tend to oppoſe their violence.

In going to Tornea you are obliged to croſs in a ferry-boat, and leave the horſes on the left bank of the river, which at this place is extremely broad and majeſtic. At a ſmall diſtance from the ſpot where we entered the boat, is the church of Lower Torneå, from which there is a fine view of the town, and where we uſed ſometimes to amuſe ourſelves by contemplating the ſun at midnight. There is a very good inn at Torneå, and we found the hoſt extremely civil and obliging.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXVI.

Maupertuis's Deſcription of Torne —Account of this Town, by the Author—The Climate—View of the Sun at Midnight—Proſpect from the Church of Lower Torneå—Harbour of Torneå—State of the Bothnian Gulf in this Vicinity—Trade of the Town—Some Travellers mentioned that have viſited Tornea—Inſcriptions preſerved in the Church at Jukasjervi.

FROM the time that Maupertuis, and the other French academicians, travelled into this country to meaſure a degree, as a mean of aſcertaining the actual figure of the earth, Torneå emerged from its obſcurity, and is now well known to all the world. The firſt advance it made towards fame was not in its favour. Maupertuis's deſcription of it, which he read in the academy at Paris, inſpired every breaſt with tender commiſeration for the poor inhabitants, who had the misfortune to be born in ſo miſerable a town. "The town of Torneå," he ſays, "on our "arrival there on the 30th of December, preſented an aſpect truly "frightful. The low houſes, from bottom to top, were ſunk in "the ſnow, which hindered the light from entering in by the "windows, while the ſnow always falling, or ready to fall, ob-"ſtructed the rays of the ſun, which was ſeldom viſible even for

"a few

" a few minutes at mid-day. In the month of January the cold " was ſo great, that the thermometers of Reaumur, which fell " 14 degrees below the freezing point at Paris during the great " froſt of the remarkable winter of 1709, here fell to 37 degrees. " Spirits of wine froze. On opening the door of a warm room, " the external air ruſhing in, inſtantly converted the vapour within " into a fleece of ſnow. On going out of the room, one's breaſt " was as it were torn by the air: every moment there appeared, in " the cracking noiſe made by the burſting of the wood of the " houſes, threatening ſymptoms that the intenſeneſs of the cold " would be ſtill farther increaſed. From the ſolitude that reigned " in the ſtreets, one would have ſuppoſed all the inhabitants to " be dead: in ſhort, at Torneå there were to be ſeen perſons who " had been mutilated by the froſt; ſome had loſt their legs and " arms. The cold, always very great in thoſe parts, was often ſo " ſevere as to prove fatal to thoſe who were expoſed to it. A ſud- " den tempeſt of ſnow at times menaced ſtill greater danger. " The wind ſeemed to blow at once from every quarter of heaven, " and with ſuch violence, as to throw down the chimneys of " houſes. Any one who ſhould be caught in ſuch a ſtorm in the " country, would in vain endeavour to find his way by means of " his acquaintance with places, or marks made by trees. He is " blinded by the ſnow, and plunges into ſome abyſs if he move " a ſtep."

If the academician draws a frightful picture of Torneå, which he ſaw only in winter, we are in a condition to ſupply its counter-

part

part in ſummer, and efface the traces of thoſe melancholy impreſſions which his exaggerated deſcription may have left on the imagination of the reader.

The town of Torneå contains a population of ſcarcely ſix hundred ſouls. The houſes are almoſt entirely of a ſingle ſtory, though high enough to exclude the moiſture of the ſnow in winter. The merchants of Torneå inhabit the ſouthern part of the town, which they have been at pains to embelliſh, and render as agreeable as poſſible: they have made a public walk, laid out gardens, planted ſome trees, and have ſtudied by their induſtry to compenſate for the defects of nature. The obſcure days of winter are counterbalanced by the almoſt continual preſence of the ſun in ſummer, and their 48 degrees of cold, to which the mercury falls in one ſeaſon, are exchanged for 27 of heat, to which it riſes in the other; for theſe are the two extremes of the thermometer that have been obſerved in Tornea.*

The town is almoſt entirely encircled by the river Torneå, which ſpreads itſelf here in a majeſtic ſtream. The oppoſite banks preſent a number of cottages and farm houſes, which the river, when quiet and undiſturbed, reflects from its pellucid waters. Northward you ſee a ſmall elevation, on the top of which ſtand ſeveral wind-mills, and lower down to the north-eaſt are ſome meadow grounds and cultivated fields. It is commonly from one of thoſe wind-mills that travellers view the ſun at midnight in

* See De la Motraye's Travels, vol. ii. p. 288. He was in Torneå 19th May, 1718, and found all the town deſtroyed by the Muſcovites.

the

the month of June; but the place moſt particularly calculated for enjoying this ſpectacle, is the church of Lower Torneå, ſituated on the iſle Biörkön, about a mile from the town. Beſides ſeeing the ſun entirely above the horizon at this point of view, the eye commands the environs of Torneå, the two mountains Bakamo and Korpekila, and the town itſelf, which is built upon the little iſland, or rather peninſula, of Swenſar. The houſes, and the church with its ſteeple, being reflected from the ſmooth ſurface of the river, afford a very pleaſing picture.

Merchant ſhips, that ſail up the gulf of Bothnia, may come almoſt cloſe to the town; and indeed, anciently, Torneå was famed for its excellent harbour. The ſand, which the ſea carries into the northern parts of the gulf, ſeems to threaten ruin in the courſe of time to the trade of this province: for it appears to me certain, almoſt to demonſtration, that the ports of Torneå, Uleåborg, and ſome other places in the northern quarter of the gulf, loſe in depth of water every year.

This town was founded in conſequence of an order of Charles IX. when he paſſed through this province in the year 1602. The articles of their export trade are butter, tallow, ſalted and dried meat, ſalted and ſmoked ſalmon, ſtrömingen, which are a ſpecies of ſmall herrings,* planks, and timber for building, tar, ſkins of rein deer, foxes, wolves, ermines, and of other animals belonging to the country, with a vaſt quantity of birds. The articles they import

* Clupea harengus minor; membras veterum.

are corn, flour, ſalt, hemp, flax, woollen cloth, coarſe linens, tobacco, and ſpices.

In the winter ſeaſon the merchants travel in their ſledges to different fairs, where they buy of the Laplanders their moſt valuable furs, and give them in exchange fiſh, meat, meal, and brandy. Some of them proceed as far as Archangel, and others to Alten in Norwegian Lapland. They carry on a contraband trade, which is the moſt profitable of all others; and as the boundaries which divide Norwegian from Swediſh Lapland, are but ill guarded, they eaſily convey from one ſide to the other ſuch articles of commercial ſpeculation as they find moſt advantageous. They ſend to Stockholm great loads of ſalted fleſh of the rein-deer, and an infinite number of birds. There are years in which they export thither to the amount of four thouſand birds, which in winter will keep for ſome months without ſpoiling in the leaſt.

A view of the ſun at midnight in Torneå, has always been regarded as an object ſingularly intereſting; and hence a very conſiderable number of travellers have viſited this place. I was at pains to ſeek out and take down the names of ſuch as are moſt diſtinguiſhed for their curioſity, literary labours, and merit, and who have a right to be added to the liſt of men of letters. Perhaps it will not be unacceptable to my readers to ſee ſuch of the names as I have been able to collect, which are the following: I begin with the firſt French traveller in this country

In the year

1681 Jean Franc Regnard, de Feſcourt & de Corberou.

1694

In the year

1694 King Charles XI. of Sweden.

1695 The profeſſors Spoli and Billberg, ſent by King Charles XI. to obſerve the elevation of the ſun at midnight.

1695 Profeſſor Olaus Rudbeck, for the purpoſe of making diſcoveries in natural hiſtory.

1696 John Ulric Weſtmüller.

1718 Aubris de la Motraye, who has printed his travels in Engliſh, which, in general, are very accurate as to what relates to Lapland.

1736 The preſident Gyllingriſs, who has publiſhed his remarks on this country in Swediſh.

1736 Maupertuis, Outhien, Sommereux, D'Herbelot, and Celſius.

1769 Mr. Mallet, profeſſor of aſtronomy. He paſſed by Tornea in his way to Pello, where he was to obſerve the tranſit of Venus over the Sun.

1783 The Marquis Paul Arconati Viſconti.

1786 Mr. Marey, a French emigrant.

1787 Le Chevalier Statella, knight of Malta.

—— Le Marquis de Tourbie.

—— William Langhorn, an American, famous for his walking. He paſſed the mountains during ſummer to enter Norway, and returned on his way to Archangel.

—— John Stuart, an American.

1791 Dr. Quenzel, a Swede, for the purpoſe of making reſearches in natural hiſtory, particularly in entomology.

In the year

1792 The preſident Veſvrotti, with Mr. Outiverou, ſecretary of legation to the Spaniſh embaſſy.

—— Mr. Liſton, miniſter from England at the court of Sweden.

—— John Scheller, a German, who has publiſhed his travels.

1796 Le Duc de Chartres (now Duke of Orleans), with Mr. Montjoye, incog. under the names of Muller and Froberg.

1799 Mr. Bernardo Bellotti, from Breſcia; Joſeph Acerbi, from Caſtelgoffredo; Colonel Skiöldebrand, from Stockholm; Mr. Julin of Uleåborg.

—— Mr. Clark, with Mr. Cripps, two Engliſhmen.

—— Mr. Swamberg, ſecretary of the academy of ſciences at Stockholm, ſent to verify Maupertuis's meaſurement of a degree.

Linnæus of courſe came to Torneå in his travels through Lapland, but I do not exactly remember the year. *See Iter Lappon.*

Some of thoſe perſons penetrated as far north as Jukasjervi, and a few of them went even beyond it. It has been the common practice for travellers to purſue the direction of north-weſt, as it has always been ſuppoſed, that to ſteer due north is impoſſible. In the church of Jukasjervi there is a book, in which, in imitation of Regnard who firſt came to this place, they have had the ambition to write their names, and to ſhew their talents as men of wit. As it is a collection which ſhews the genius of the men, and of no great length, I thought I ſhould not diſpleaſe the reader by laying it before him.

No. I.

No. I.

" Gallia nos genuit, vidit nos Africa, Gangem
" Hauſimus, Europamque oculis luſtravimus omnem,
" Caſibus et variis acti terrâque marique
" Siſtimus hic tandem, nobis ubi defuit orbis.
" Des Feſcourt, de Corberou, Regnard, at Jukasjervi,
" 18th Auguſt, 1681."

Every body knows Regnard and his dramatic performances. He was the firſt Frenchman who took it into his head to travel ſo far to the north; and he was ſo enchanted with his ſucceſs, that he fancied he had reached the end of the world, though he might have continued his journey two hundred miles farther in the ſame direction, without having a right to employ the laſt line of his inſcription. If we could believe him, he met with a French blackſmith in Lapland, who told him, that in his whole life he had ſeen but one traveller in that country, and that was an Italian. Upon his return to France he publiſhed his travels through Lapland, full of untruths and exaggeration, written rather to amuſe than inſtruct, though the book made much noiſe at the time. He ſays, for example, " That he met blackſmiths in Lapland, who " had the ſkin of their hands ſo hardened and callous, that they " could hold melted lead for ſome time in the hollow of the " hand." He alſo tells you, " That the eagles carry up into the " air the young rein-deer, and that the *petits gris* and ermines hang " themſelves on a tree in autumn, to prevent their dying of hun- " ger in winter, &c."

No. II.

No. II.

" Gallia mihi lucem dedit, et liberum Anglia portum; utraque me " Germania, Græcia Magna Minorque, mons Jovis, ac Barcellona, " Herculiſque columnæ, ambæ Aſiæ, Italia, Africa, hiſque oppoſita " Melite, Euxina et Mæotica, Caſpia, Baltica nec non littora viderunt, " vidit Polus Arcticus ipſe, et mihi inocciduum oſtendit Lapponia ſo- " lem; proque cibo et potu carnem et lac rangiferinum præbuit, ut " Tartaria olim præbebat equinum.

" Hæc ſcribebat ad Jukasjerviam rediens ex Torniavenſi lacu Aubris " de la Motraye, Magnæ Britanniæ ſubditus, 13 Junii, 1718."

Mr. Motraye ſeems to have been a traveller of conſequence. It appears from his biographer, that he lived in particular habits of friendſhip with Charles the XIIth, king of Sweden. When he printed his Travels in England, he does not ſeem to have been quite pleaſed with his inſcription at Jukasjervi, which is neither verſe nor proſe (as he would make us believe that he wrote it extempore), and he has altered it in the following manner:—

" Me genetrix tenuit bis denis amplius annis,
" Gallia, me Italia, Africa terra, Britannica regna,
" Ambæ Aſiæ, Melite ſterili vicina Coſyræ,
" Utraque me Germania, Græcia Magna Minorque,
" Urbes Tarraco, Barcinon, Herculeæque columnæ,
" Euxina et Mœotica, Caſpia, Baltica nec non
" Littora viderunt; vidit Polus Arcticus ipſe,
" Ac mihi inocciduum oſtendit Lapponia ſolem,
" Proque cibo ac potu carnem et lac rangiferinum
" Præbuit,

" Præbuit, ut quondam præbere ſolebat equinum
" Tartaria.
" A. de la Motraye, die 23 Junii, 1718."*

No. III.

" Benché un ſecolo piu tardi, ſpinto però da non minor curioſità,
" dalla Lombardia il Marcheſe Paolo Arconati Viſcònti viſitò queſto
" luogo ai 5 di Juglio, 1783."

No. IV.

" Eſt terra antiqua ubere glebâ potens, Lingones Colucreviri, Bur-
" gundiam nunc Galli cognomine dicunt, hæc mihi patria. Plures per-
" luſtravi regiones: vidit me Germanus, ſuperbi viderunt Britanni, et
" quos dives paſcit Flandria, atram vomere qui paludem exercuerunt
" Batavi, qui bibunt Viſtulam Danubiumque, horrentes Alpum qui te-
" nent rupes, Tiberis qui ſacrum colunt littus, plures que alii. Poſt va-
" rios caſus et magna diſcrimina rerum, polares appuli ad aras, inocci-
" duum ſolem, rangiferorumque gelidum ubi Lapponem ubera vidi
" preſſantem. Curſus fuit ad locum quam Waida-Kaſta dicunt, nullus
" ubi antea penetravit viator. Multum fui et terris jactatus et cataractis,
" multum quoque et culicibus paſſus; rediens ex his deſertis, et pro-
" perans in Galliam ſedes ubi fata dederunt jucundiores, Jukasjervino
" hanc in templo appoſui inſcriptionem, 7 Julii, 1796."

" Marey, a native of France, who alone have traverſed the de-
ſerts of Lapland."

" Tombeau de la nature effroyables rivages
" Que l'ourſe diſpute encore a l'homme ſauvage." †

* See his Travels, vol. ii. p. 323.
† Prou, in his Tragedy of Guſtavus Vaſa.

No. V.

No. V.

" Non mihi fama ſed hoſpitalitatis et gratitudinis teſtimonium.

" S. Stewart, civis orbis 3° Julii, 1787."

No. VI.

" Juſtice bids me record thy hoſpitable fame, and teſtify it by my " name. W. Langhorn, United States of America, July 23, 1787."

No. VII.

" Gallia me genuit. Gallia! heu glorioſa, hodie contempta, cras " forſitan nihil! Regi fidelis, patriâ, ſub rege quondam felice, nunc " plebeianâ tyrannià oppreſsâ, emigravi; Magnam Britanniam, Hiſ- " paniamque cognoſcebam; primum Italiam, poſtea Hungariam vidi, " Helvetiam reviſens per totam Germaniam, Poloniam, Moſcoviam, " Ruſſiam peregrinatus, per Finlandiam Stockholmiam acceſſi, unde " in Lapponiam incurri, in ſocietate Franciſci Outaveri Hiſpani na- " tione, ex Nallia in regno Murciæ. Hoſpitium dedit venerandus ad- " modum Jukasjervenſis paſtor Daniel Engelmark, cui teſtimonium " gratitudinis meæ hic affero."

" Carolus Ricardus de Veſvrotti, vir nobilis ex Dijone in Burgundiâ, " Præſes in ſupremâ nationum curiâ has viſitavit regiones, die 4 Feb- " ruarii, 1792."

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXVII.

Reſidence at Torneå—Some Individuals of this Place mentioned—A new Addition to the travelling Party: Enumeration of the ſcientific Perſons that now compoſed it—Departure from Torneå—Some topographical Remarks on the Environs—Face of the Country between Torneå and Upper Torneå—Different Stages that are paſſed—Salmon Fiſhery—Particular Method of catching theſe Fiſh—An old Man ſerving for a Guide—A Bathing-place, after the Finlandiſh Faſhion—Hand-mills for grinding Corn—A few Plants mentioned.

DURING our ſtay at Torneå we became acquainted with every perſon who was at all diſpoſed to be ſociable. The moſt conſiderable merchant of the town is Mr. Richard, a man well acquainted with the concerns of his country, and poſſeſſed of a great ſhare of natural good ſenſe: he has been always a repreſentative in the national diet, and is the moſt corpulent man I ever ſaw in any country. The burgomaſter of Torneå was extremely polite and obliging. We received civilities from the maſter of the town-ſchool, who ſpeaks French, and is a man of ſome merit: he lives, much againſt his inclination, in ſo remote a corner of the North: he is fettered to the place by the ties of a wife

and children. We likewiſe had the good fortune of being introduced to Dr. Deutſch, a perſon of gentle and engaging manners, and at the ſame time very ſkilful in his profeſſion. He is a great lover of the ſtudy of natural hiſtory, and had by his own induſtry made a very pretty collection of Swediſh and Laplandiſh inſects, and one of plants: he had alſo made ſome progreſs in collecting birds. He had conſtructed a ſmall electrical machine, and his own ingenuity had ſupplied the want of thoſe means which are ſo eaſily obtained in the more ſouthern countries.

Upon becoming acquainted with the Doctor, we found him ſo intelligent a man, that we were deſirous to induce him to become one of our party, and therefore made the propoſal to him, which he accepted; more indeed, I believe, from a love of ſcience, and particularly of natural hiſtory, than from any other conſideration. His profeſſion would not admit of a longer abſence than a fortnight; but, to oblige us, he conſented to go with us as far as Kengis-bruk. We now only wanted one individual to complete our caravan. We had in Mr. Caſtrein a very good botaniſt; in Mr. Julin, a mineralogiſt; in Dr. Deutſch, an excellent entomologiſt; in Colonel Skiöldebrand, a landſcape painter. As for me, I charged myſelf with the article of ornithology, and the office of digeſting the communications of my fellow-travellers, who every evening gave me the names of the ſpecimens they had found, with their own obſervations upon them. Never had any journey a more promiſing appearance at the outſet; nor could Lapland ever have a chance of being explored in a manner more agreeable,

able, more inſtructive, and at the ſame time more uſeful. Nothing was wanting to render our travelling company quite compleat but one man; this was Mr. Secretary Swamberg, whom we ſaw at Torneå, and who was on his way to Lapland, being commiſſioned by the academy of ſciences at Stockholm to aſcertain the truth of the operations of Maupertuis and his colleagues, which were undertaken at the ſame time that Condamine ſailed for South America. An aſtronomer and mathematician added to our philoſophical ſtaff would have made us the moſt reſpectable corps that ever traverſed the mountains of Lapland. He was our friend, and deſired nothing more ſincerely; but the ſhip which had on board his quadrant and other mathematical inſtruments of obſervation, was not arrived; and its arrival was ſo uncertain, that we could not hazard a delay, as our time became every hour more precious. We therefore reſolved to depart, and proceed with all expedition to Upper Torneå, where we propoſed to begin a more accurate courſe of obſervation.

The peninſula of Swenſar, upon which the town of Torneå is ſituated, has by ſome been very improperly called an *iſland*. It is joined to the continent by a tongue of land, which, indeed, is overflowed when the river is high; but ſtill horſes in carts are able to ford it, and the people frequently paſs it upon ſtepping-ſtones: it cannot therefore be conſidered as an iſland.

From Torneå to Upper Torneå we perceived no alteration in the nature of the country, nor in the houſes or inhabitants of Finland. The convenience of travelling is the ſame, and you find

horſes all the way. The road is naturally good, and kept in excellent repair: but at Upper Torneå every thing terminates; you inſtantly obſerve that you are about to enter an uncultivated country, and to take leave of the civilized world. No more horſes, no road, no lodging for paſſengers, except a ſort of caravanſary, which the merchants of Torneå have provided for their accommodation in travelling in winter to the different fairs, which are held at places extremely remote. Without anticipating our detail, we will premiſe a ſketch of the country and objects that fell under our notice on the route to Ofver, or Upper Torneå.

The environs of Torneå are extremely naked of wood: it was in great abundance formerly; but at preſent none remains, except in one diſtrict, where it is preſerved by a proprietor for the purpoſe of harbouring game.

We changed horſes at Kukko, which lies at the diſtance of ſeven miles from Torneå. *Kukko*, in the language of Finland, ſignifies *cock*, and it is probably the name for a particular ſpecies of that bird, whoſe crowing has ſome analogy to the note of the cuckoo. The line of the road runs pretty cloſe to the river Torneå. After Kukko we paſſed very near to the villa of Mr. Richard, the merchant of Torneå, who is fond of a country life, and devoted to agricultural purſuits. He has laid out a garden, which he cultivates with great care, and in which he has made repeated trials to raiſe various exotic fruits and plants. His gardener told us he had attempted to rear apple trees, which had taken root and ſucceeded for three years, but then died. The only plant in flower when

when we were there was *bellis perrennis*; but the following grow in the neighbourhood: *berberis vulgaris, corylus avellana, tulipa, narciſſas, aqnilegia, torpeolum, pæonia, dianthas, ribes.*

We again changed horſes at Frankila, a village conſiſting of a few wooden houſes, nine miles from Kukko. We ſaw here ſome women whoſe looks were mild and rather agreeable; the children too of a good appearance; but we were ſtruck at the ſight of their bread, which is made of two thirds ſtraw, cut very ſmall, and one third of meal. From Frankila you ſee at a diſtance the mountain Nivavara, where ſtill remains the ſignal poſt which the French academicians erected on its ſummit to aſſiſt in their trigonometrical operations.

After Frankila you change horſes Korpicula (*korpi* ſignifies a wood, *kula* place), a diſtance of about eight miles. In this place the river Tornea forms a baſon of tranquil and gentle water, which ſucceeds the boiſterous tumult of a fall or caſcade, called Matkakoſki. The river preſents no pleaſing view in this vicinity. We found in a houſe hard by ſome peaſants employed in making their fiſhing nets; there was one who ſmoked from ſo ſhort a pipe, that my companion remarked it, ſaying to me in Italian, *che piccola pippa.* The Finlander who was ſmoaking, underſtood perfectly our Italian, and repeated as he turned round to us, laughing, *picco pippo, picco pippo*; *picco* denoting in Finlandiſh the ſame as *piccola* in Italian.

Eight miles from Korpicula is the church of Kirkomeki (*kirko* ſignifying church, *meki*, a hill), ſituated upon an eminence. About

halt

half way the noiſe of the river, which is heard at a conſiderable diſtance, ſuggeſted to us the idea of a cataract; and having, in conſequence of this circumſtance, traverſed a wood, with a peaſant for our guide, we came to the place from which the ſound proceeded, and found that it was occaſioned by the vehemence and rapidity of the river forcing itſelf through a narrow paſſage. Here we fell in with two or three parties fiſhing for ſalmon, and we helped them to draw a net, which contained five or ſix fiſh of very conſiderable ſize.

The common method of catching ſalmon in the North is by driving a paliſade, which extends from one bank as far as the middle of the river, and ſometimes even to the oppoſite ſide: between the ſtakes of the paliſade they put branches of trees, or perhaps net-work, which hinder the ſalmon from aſcending the ſtream, and leave only one opening where the fiſh may paſs through, but where they have placed a net which is ready to receive them. It is not permitted to make their *lax-pata*, the Finlandiſh term for the paliſade, longer than a certain meaſure, and they pay in proportion to its length, and alſo its proximity to the mouth of the river; for ſuch as are high up the river can only catch the ſalmon that eſcape all the fiſhers below them. This paliſade, or *lax-pata*, is always ſet where the river is moſt noiſy, and where it forms a fall. The people of the country ſhew an incredible dexterity in walking along thoſe ſtakes, which the force of the current ſhakes in a ſurpriſing manner: women and children trip over them with wonderful adroitneſs and facility. We wiſhed

to

to give them our aſſiſtance in drawing their nets, and by a great exertion of courage, we got over almoſt one third of the paliſade, but if one of my companions had not deſiſted in time, his head becoming giddy by the motion of the water under his feet, he muſt have dropt into the river. The children and even the men themſelves are ſometimes too confident of their agility, ſo that ſcarce a year paſſes without ſome of them falling in and being drowned, the current being too ſtrong for a boat to be of any uſe to them.

The addreſs with which the Finlanders drive their ſtakes into the bottom of the river, at places where the current is extremely rapid, deſerves likewiſe to be noticed, as an operation highly dangerous as well as difficult, and to which thoſe poor people ſometimes fall victims.

In getting to this part of the river we went nearly an Engliſh mile out of the road, where we left our horſes. Our guide, who led us acroſs a ſmall wood of firs by narrow footpaths, was upon his return to viſit his cow-houſe, which ſtood in the midſt of the wood. We could not avoid feeling intereſted for this man. He was ſeventy-five years of age, and had ſerved in the war of Pomerania, or, as it is commonly called, the ſeven years war: he ſpoke German a little, had been ſeveral times wounded, and, as an invalid, had a piece of ground aſſigned to him. In this ſpot, ſeparated from the world, his induſtry had improved his little fortune ſo as to enable him to live comfortably with his wife and children, and to feed eight cows, whoſe good condition afforded him infinite pleaſure.

We took leave of our aged companion, and were purſuing our journey, when a ſtorm and violent fall of rain obliged us to take refuge in a houſe upon an eminence on the left ſide of the river. Here we had an extenſive proſpect, which preſented to our view different diſtricts of the country overflowed by the river Tornea. This houſe had a bath quite in the taſte of Finland, and we amuſed ourſelves by looking at the men and women who entered into the bathing room. The men undreſſed themſelves in the houſe, and ran naked into the bath, which is at a diſtance of fifteen or twenty feet from the dwelling-houſe. The women, it is true, took off their clothes in the bathing-place itſelf, but they threw their petticoats on the outſide, and thus were obliged to come out, like ſo many Eves, to put them on. They threw their clothes out of the room to prevent their becoming wet by the vapour of the bath. When they were all in the midſt of the bath, my curioſity influenced me to run in alſo to ſee what was going on, and to ſtation my thermometer in a corner of the bath for the purpoſe of aſcertaining the heat; but it was ſo inſupportable, that being abſolutely unable to breathe, I made my way out as faſt as I went in, having had ſcarcely time to look around me. I twice attempted to place my thermometer in the room, but I was obliged to call my Finlandiſh interpreter, who was more accuſtomed to it, and I found that the heat was 65 degrees of Celſius.

At Kirkomeki we met with what I may call an excellent lodging, and a very polite landlady, who was not of the ſame claſs with the peaſantry, but a relation of a merchant in Torneå. In a ſmall

a ſmall houſe adjoining, I ſaw a kind of hand-mill to grind corn for the family: it conſiſted of two round ſtones, in the uppermoſt of which was inſerted a ſtick, whoſe other extremity paſſed through a hole in a triangular board, which was faſtened to the corner of the room.

Proceeding ſix miles beyond Kirkomeki, we arrived at *Niemis* which word ſignifies, in the language of the country, a *promontory:* here we changed horſes for the laſt time. It is a groupe of ſmall wooden houſes, where we ſaw ſome little boats on the river Armesjoki: the place is a ſmall dependency of Tornea. Farther on you have a view of a mountain named Luppio, which is compoſed of rocks that are ſeemingly falling into ruins.

From Niemis to Upper Torneå is eight miles: this is the laſt ſtage of the journey. The road is mountainous, and in ſome places ſo full of ſand, as to render it extremely fatiguing to the horſes. We reached Upper Torneå on the eighteenth of June in the afternoon. The plants which we found in flower, in the courſe of this route, were the following:

Menyanthes trifoliata	Cornus ſuecica
Trientalis Europæa	Leontodon taraxacum
Betula nana	Rubus chamœmorus
Andromeda polifolia	Rubus arcticus.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

State of the Road from Torneå to Upper Torneå—The People that inhabit this Tract of Country—Ofver Torneå, or Upper Torneå—The Superintendent Miniſter of that Pariſh—Hoſpitality of the Clergy, and their Attention to Travellers—Viſit to Mount Avaſaxa: the Account which Maupertuis has given of this Mountain, very accurate—Remains of Signals upon the Mountain—Inſects and Plants found on, or near Mount Avaſaxa. Flora Avaſaxenſis—Meat kept very long in the cold Seaſon—Departure from Upper Torneå: Loſs of one fellow Traveller who returned home.

THE whole of the road from Torneå to Upper Torneå is tolerably well formed, and kept, as I obſerved before, in good repair, and of a ſufficient breadth to admit of travelling in any ſort of carriage: it has been made in the courſe of the laſt thirty years. When De la Motraye* was in this country, he was obliged to perform his journey in a boat. Travellers ſhould contrive it ſo as never to have occaſion for more than four horſes at a time, as you meet with ſtages where there are no more to be found. If it ſhould ſo happen that a greater number is wanted, the company ſhould divide into two parties, one going on a day before the

* See his Travels.

other,

other, who will have the ſame horſes after they are returned from the firſt.

The country riſes into ſmall hills, which here and there are covered with pine and fir-trees. In the vicinity of rivers, and in marſhy ground, the willow and birch-tree ſeem to be favourites of the ſoil. The proſpect affords nothing very intereſting, except the continual preſence of the ſun, which, as he never leaves the horizon, renders travelling by night extremely agreeable.

The inhabitants, on the whole of this route, are of the true Finniſh race, and ſpeak the genuine language of Finland; they all have the ſame habits, the ſame ſtature, the ſame dreſs, the ſame wants, and the ſame manner of living.

Ofver Torneå, or Upper Torneå, is the pariſh which has the ſuperintendence of all the clergy and churches of that part of Lapland, which is in the dependence of Torneå. The head miniſter of the pariſh is the reverend Mr. Swamberg. Having paid our compliments to him, he inſiſted on our lodging at his houſe with our whole company, ten perſons in all. The place where travellers commonly ſtop, is the village of Mattarange, at the diſtance of about a hundred yards from the clergyman's houſe; but Mr. Caſtrein, who was of our party, being himſelf a ſuperintendent, and of the ſame rank with Mr. Swamberg, could not have remained with us, or done leſs than ſleep at the houſe of a brother clergyman. There was ſtill a more cogent reaſon for our lodging with Mr. Swamberg, namely, that at Mattarange the accommodations are miſerably bad, and would not have been capacious

enough to hold all our party. Beſides, it is an eſtabliſhed cuſtom, and generally followed by every traveller throughout the Swediſh dominions, the great road excepted, to go directly to the clergyman's houſe, and to aſk for a chamber to lodge in, with the ſame freedom as you would uſe at an inn; for the public houſes kept by the peaſants are ſo very bad, that it is impoſſible for decent company to ſtay in them. The clergy, who, for the moſt part, are wealthy, and wearied with the dull uniformity of living in thoſe ſequeſtered regions, cut off from all ſociety, are extremely happy to receive a ſtranger who is acquainted with what is paſſing in the world, and with whom they may converſe of public and of private tranſactions. He is entertained in a ſuperior ſtyle, and treated with the moſt delicious fare they can procure.

The clergy almoſt univerſally ſpeak Latin, ſome few German, and as they have had a college education, you find one now and then who ſpeaks a little French: with the help of theſe languages you make yourſelf underſtood by the maſter of the family, but one ſuffers a vaſt diſadvantage in not being able to ſpeak, in ſome degree, the language of the country. In the houſes of the clergy you ſometimes meet with extremely handſome and amiable young ladies, who having for the greateſt part been educated in a town, or amidſt the pleaſures and diſſipation of the capital, return home with a certain poliſh in their manners, which is by no means calculated to render ſolitude pleaſing, or to diſpoſe their minds to ſupport the contraſt, and ſudden change of ſituations, with philoſophical equanimity. Theſe young women, however, like their mothers,

ſpeak

ſpeak in general only their native tongue; and yet nothing can be more agreeable to them than the arrival of a traveller, and, above all, a young ſtranger of good appearance, who can one way or another make them underſtand him. His faults in ſpeaking ſeem to be as many graces of ſpeech, his ideas are always applauded as original, conſtantly found entertaining, and either at once underſtood or gueſſed. The more diſtant the country from which he comes, the more intereſting is his perſon; they contemplate his face, ſurvey him from head to foot; are unable to reſtrain a ſmile of pleaſure in ſeeing him, and in hearing him ſpeak: the gayety of the family diffuſes itſelf from the faces of the maſters to thoſe of the ſervants, and even deſcends to the cat and dog, which, on his account, dine and ſup better than uſual. As they are at a loſs to diſtinguiſh between a pleaſant and cheerful entertainment, and that of a uſeleſs and troubleſome profuſion; in order to mark their perfect good will to oblige you, they almoſt ſuffocate you with tea, coffee, chocolate, liqueurs, punch, and drink of all kinds, which ſucceed one another, in contempt of all order, with an oppreſſive rapidity. The moment of departure is always melancholy: you fancy it impoſſible to quit a houſe where you are the object of ſuch unwearied attention and politeneſs. Sometimes the young ladies will make uſe of ſome ſtratagem in order to detain you; and I will honeſtly confeſs, that I have occaſionally got into the carriage when my heart was well diſpoſed to remain.

Such was the unbounded hoſpitality we experienced in the houſe of the reverend Mr. Swamberg. His daughters were pretty, lively,

lively, and poſſeſſed ſome degree of natural wit. One of them played on the piano-forte, and tolerably well for a dilettante of that climate. There is an organiſt here for the ſervice of the church. The organ is a pretty good one, and was the object of the miniſter's higheſt ambition, who has the honour to be clergyman of the moſt northern church in Europe that has an organ. We paſſed two days in the ſociety of this family, which, owing to the many different avocations that ſucceeded to each other with great rapidity, appeared very ſhort.

Our viſit to mount Avaſaxa was the pleaſanteſt and moſt intereſting of all our excurſions. It is concerning this mountain that Maupertuis ſpeaks in his book on the theory of the earth. Our walk was very ſimilar to his, directed on the ſame ſide, and in the ſame manner as it is deſcribed by that academician. Our bodily labour was the ſame; and his deſcription of the view from the top of the mountain is ſo exactly true, that I need only copy it to expreſs my ideas. We even ſaw the falcons he mentions, and which he made ſome unſucceſsful attempts to kill. The accuracy of his account gave us great pleaſure, and I fancied I ſhould gratify the reader by placing it here.

AVASAXA.

" This mountain is ſituated about fifteen leagues from Torneå,
" on the margin of the river, from which the acceſs to it is not
" very eaſy. The aſcent lies through a foreſt, reaching up nearly
" to its middle. The foreſt itſelf is interrupted by a great aggre-
" gate

" gate of rocks and ſlippery ſtones, after which you again find the " wood which formerly extended to the top; I ſay formerly, becauſe " we had all the trees cut down with which the ſummit was co- " vered. The north ſide of the mountain conſiſts in a frightful " precipice of rocks, in which the hawks build their neſts. At " the foot of this rock runs the Tenglio, which winds round the " Avaſaxa before it diſcharges itſelf into the Torneå. From this " mountain the proſpect is very beautiful. Towards the ſouth it " is open and unbounded, and the river Torneå is ſeen to a vaſt " extent. On the eaſt, the eye traces the Tenglio as far as its " courſe through ſundry lakes. The view to the north extends " to twelve or fifteen leagues, where it is interrupted by an aſſem- " blage of mountains heaped on one another, reminding the ſpec- " tator of the repreſentations that are made of chaos, but among " which it would not be eaſy to find one that would do juſtice to " the proſpect from Avaſaxa." Maupert. vol. iii. 8vo. p. 110.

On the higheſt ſummit of the mountain we found a quantity of the remains of burnt wood, and many fragments which the lapſe of time had rotted and reduced to decay. We imagined that they might be the relics of the trees which Maupertuis employed in erecting his ſignals; but we were informed by the peaſants, that they were left from the ſignals of alarm which had been raiſed in the year 1747, and likewiſe in the laſt war of Finland. Theſe ſignals conſiſt in heaps of wood which are ſet on fire to appriſe the natives of the approach of an enemy. We ourſelves made a large fire for our amuſement as well as to mark the

the centre of rendezvous for the benefit of our company, who were engaged in different parts of the mountain. I will ſubjoin a liſt of the different objects of natural hiſtory, which were the fruits of our induſtry in the courſe of this excurſion.

INSECTS.

Papilio Ligea	Silpha quadripuſtulata
Papilio rubi	Cerambyx noctis
Leptura interrogationis	Elater teſſelatus
Tenthredo lucorum	Chryſomela Lapponica
Tenthredo virens	Cicindela ſylvatica

PLANTS IN FLOWER.

Lycopodium complanatum	Convallaria majalis
Lycopodium Selago	Geranium paluſtre
Andromeda polifolia	Anthoxanthum odoratum
Ranunculus auricomus	Bartſia alpina
Vaccinium uliginoſum	

Mr. Julin made a liſt of all the plants he could recognize on the mountain of Avaſaxa, and called it *Flora Avaſaxenſis*; it is as follows:

Achillea millefolium	Erica vulgaris
Andromeda polifolia	Gnaphalium ?
Arbutus uva urſi	Juniperus communis
Betula alba	Sedum ?
Betula nana	Lycopodium clavatum
Caltha paluſtris	Lycopodium Selago

Calla

Caltha paluſtris
Canvallaria bifolia
Empetrum nigrum
Epilobium ?
Populus tremula
Cornus ſuecica
Equiſetum ſylvaticum
Lichen rangiferinus
Lichen geographicus
Lichen tartareus
Rubus arcticus
Rubus chamæmorus
Rubus Idæus
Rumex acetoſella
Melampyrum ſylvaticum
Oxalis acetoſella
Pinus abies
Pinus ſylveſtris
Polytrichum ?
Sorbus aucaparia
Tanacetum ?
Trientalis Europæa
Trollius Europæus
Vaccinium myrtillus
Vaccinium vitis Idæa
Viola canina
Viola paluſtris

Mr. Swamberg gave us for dinner, among other things, a roaſt of rein-deer, remarkable for its having kept good in his cellar eight months. The animal had been killed in the month of November, 1798, and we ate it the 19th of June, 1799. I wiſh, by mentioning this circumſtance, to convey to the reader an idea of the length of winter in this country, and for how long a period it is poſſible to preſerve iced meat ſound. The roaſt was excellent, and it had not the leaſt of an unſavoury ſmell; it had no fault, but that of being rather dry.

On the 20th of June, about midnight, we ſet out from Ofver Torneå, and all the pleaſures of our hoſpitable quarters contributed to make us feel more ſenſibly the pain of our departure. This pain was much encreaſed by the loſs of Mr. Caſtrein's company, who

determined to return to his family for reaſons that pleaded his excuſe ſo forcibly, that we could give no oppoſition to the reſolution he had taken. He had left his wife far advanced in her pregnancy, and the ſenſibility of his heart would not ſuffer him to expoſe himſelf to danger, nor to the contingencies of a journey, the period of which it was not eaſy to calculate. This loſs was felt with real concern by all of us, and we were obliged to conſole ourſelves on our way with pronouncing encomiums upon the excellent qualities, both of head and heart, of this clergyman, worthy of every thing that could be ſaid in his praiſe.

The whole family of Mr. Swamberg accompanied us to the river-ſide, where the boat was waiting for us, and we loſt ſight of them, ſaluting them with our hats and handkerchiefs to the laſt moment.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXIX.

The Travellers henceforth proceed by Water—Strong Currents of the Rivers, occaſioned by Cataracts—Paſs by a Salmon-Fiſhery: manner of eating Salmon raw—Difficulty of navigating thoſe Rivers—Stages on this Journey—Paſs the Arctic Polar Circle, near the Cataracts of Kattila Koſki—A ſhort Paſſage by Land—Pello, and Mount Kittis remarkable for Maupertuis's Aſtronomical Obſervations—Mr. Swamberg's Remarks on the Labours of Maupertuis; from which it appears, that his Obſervations are not to be depended on—Method of obtaining the Eggs of the Mergus Merganſor—From Kardis to Kengis—Arrival at Kengis, and Hoſpitality ſhewn by an Inſpector of the Mines—A Stone with very ancient Inſcriptions taken Notice of by Maupertuis—Plants and Inſects.

THE wind was quite fair, and made our boat proceed with greater expedition. Our Finlandiſh boatmen, unwilling to loſe ſo favourable a moment for repoſing their arms, put up a ſmall ſail, which ſerved to force us againſt the current with a velocity ſufficient to carry us on at the rate of five miles an hour. The boat was ſo ſmall that it could hold but four perſons in all, and the conflict of the wind in ſurmounting the reſiſtance of the current, which was the effect of cataracts, produced ſuch a ſwell

in the water, that it came ſometimes into the boat; a circumſtance which was by no means pleaſant to voyagers who had ſo recently changed their mode of travelling, and who were better acquainted with the dangers of land than water. Here we are then, entered into a country where all communication by land is precluded; no more roads, nor horſes, nor carriages of any kind; in a country where you may travel about four hundred miles without ever ſeeing either a ſingle horſe, or any road.

Kaulimpe is the firſt village on the left bank of the river, where we changed our boat. We found here a *lax-pata*, or paliſade for catching ſalmon. The people there had caught, in the courſe of the day, to the amount of three hundred pounds weight of that fiſh. We bought one of the largeſt of their ſalmon, and learned for the firſt time to eat it raw. It is cut into ſlices tranſverſely and put in ſalt; when ſalted, it is left in a wooden diſh with a little water, and after three days this raw ſalmon is delicious eating. It is a favourite diſh with the firſt nobility of Stockholm, inſomuch that they ſeldom give a fine dinner when raw ſalmon is not preſented on the table. This kind of proviſion was a great reſource to us during our navigation of the rivers, as we were able to preſerve it a long time, and might eaſily dreſs it, at leaſt as often as we could find the neceſſary trifling ingredients.

At the village Toluſis, otherwiſe named Juoxange, eight miles from Kaulimpe, we changed boats and boatmen for the ſecond time. This voyage was ſtill more tempeſtuous than the former. Our men, like their predeceſſors, wiſhed to take advantage of the wind,

wind, and we aſcended, with the help of a ſail, amidſt falls and rocks, where we expected every moment to go to the bottom. It requires a moſt accurate knowledge of the bed of the river to venture on this navigation; and for this reaſon it is but prudent to change boat and boatmen at each village, as the peaſants are all perfectly maſters of the channel in their reſpective bounds. At certain intervals you will find in the whole breadth of the river but one opening where the boat can paſs, and whoever is not apprized of it will probably run his boat amongſt a thouſand rocks without ſucceeding, but not without the moſt imminent danger of periſhing.

Having arrived at Kattila Koſki, the boatmen took down their ſail and ſhewed us their addreſs in aſcending againſt the rapid current of the cataracts. Kattila Koſki is a long ſeries of waterfalls, formed by the ſtony bed of the river, and by huge rocks which riſe above the ſurface of the water. Theſe cataracts are particularly famous on the map, as being the place which correſponds to that diviſion of the globe known by the name of the Polar Circle. To aſcend in a ſmall boat ſuch a formidable ſucceſſion of cataracts, where the water is almoſt every where rolling down in foam, would at firſt ſight ſeem impoſſible; but nothing is impoſſible to man, whom habits have rendered familiar to danger. Thoſe Finlandiſh Laplanders, beſides an addreſs peculiar to themſelves, have what perhaps is of ſtill more conſequence—the moſt perfect coolneſs and apathy. They take their places, one at the head and the other at the ſtern of their canoe,

and

and with a long pole which they thruſt to the bottom of the river, find their point of reſiſtance, and thus puſh the boat againſt the ſtream. This pole is made of a pine, and about fifteen feet long; they are obliged to throw it with all their ſtrength to the bottom, in order to overcome the current which conſtantly impels it backwards. It is a Herculean labour; beſides, it requires infinite practice to guide and manage the boat, forming, as circumſtances demand, many a ſharp angle, amidſt a multitude of obſtacles. The moſt diſagreeable, and at the ſame time the moſt dangerous ſituation is, the man reſting by accident the end of his pole upon a rock of a ſmooth or round ſurface, in the moment that he applies to it the whole weight and force of his body, the pole ſlips from under him; he falls in an inſtant headlong into the river, and the paſſenger gives himſelf up for loſt. The Laplander, however, quickly recovers himſelf and prepares to repeat the ſame operation; but it ſometimes happens that the current gets the aſcendant and drives the boat a ſtern. In this critical juncture the whole addreſs of the boatman is exerted to keep the head of the boat directly oppoſed to the ſtream, till he is again in a condition to puſh her forward; and above all, to prevent her laying her ſide to the current, as in that poſition, by preſenting a larger ſurface to the water, ſhe would inſtantly be overſet.

In order to have ſome reſpite from this ſevere toil, the boatmen requeſted that we would diſembark and walk along the bank to the end of theſe cataracts. We were greatly overjoyed to learn that it was practicable to go by land, and moſt cheerfully accepted their

their propoſal. The great difficulty of paſſing thoſe cataracts with a boat, containing more than two perſons, had rendered it cuſtomary to perform this part of the journey by land. The woods being then impaſſable, a narrow foot-path had been formed in the direction of the river. The impracticability of travelling through thoſe woods proceeded from the way being obſtructed by under-wood, and the branches of firs and pine-trees; from a ſtrong kind of moſs, which grows here in great abundance, and ſometimes two feet high; and from deep marſhy ſoil, where you are in danger every ſtep of ſinking in the mire. Theſe obſtacles impeded the paſſage through the woods; and to remedy the evil the people had cut down trees and laid them longitudinally one after the other, in ſuch a manner that the paſſenger as he walked along the trunks was obliged carefully to attend to his centre of gravity, and balance himſelf like a dancer on the tight rope.

We again changed our boat at Tortula, ſix miles from Tolaſis, and purſued our voyage on the river all the way to Pello, which is twelve miles from Tortula. Pello is a village of four or five peaſants houſes; from this place you ſee the mountain Kittis, famous for being the laſt point where Maupertuis concluded his trigonometrical operations, and remarkable for nothing elſe.

I ſhall here preſent the reader with Mr. Swamberg's obſervations on the inaccuracy of Maupertuis's meaſurement.* Theſe obſervations are found in "A report on a journey to Lapland, "undertaken at the expence of the royal academy of ſciences at

* See Maupertuis's Works, vol. iv. page 332.

"Stockholm,

" Stockholm, to examine the local ſituation and contiguous " grounds, where the French academicians, in the year 1736, de- " termined the length of an arch of the meridian, as it croſſes " the polar circle; with general reflections on the figure of the " earth, and upon the neceſſity of new meaſurements to aſcertain " exactly the equation; read at a public meeting of the ſaid " academy, on the 23d of October, 1799, by Sons Swamberg."

" The aſtronomer, as well as the mathematician, are perfectly " agreed, that the ſpherical form of the earth's figure, contains " elements that muſt be taken into account, if we would know " from theory the preciſe quantity of the proceſſion of the equi- " noxes and the nutation of the earth's axis. Theſe equations, " and others * in effect leſs conſiderable, but which in the courſe " of ages will be gradually developed, and will at laſt become of " too much importance to be neglected, joined to the influence " which a knowledge more or leſs perfect of the dimenſions of " our planet has on the accuracy of a calculation of all the phe- " nomena which are in any degree concerned in the effects of the " parallax, have determined the learned for almoſt a century and " an half, to make it one of the principal objects of their moſt pro-

* In order to ſatisfy ourſelves of the exiſtence of ſuch equations, we have only to recollect, that the earth not being a perfect ſphere, and that the attraction of a body, whatever be its figure, being the ſum of the combined attractions of all its particles, it neceſſarily follows, that the force by which we are drawn towards the ſun will not vary exactly in the ratio of the ſquare of the diſtances, and that conſequently there will be a very ſlow motion in the line of the apſides, which however inſenſible it may be in the ſpace of ſome decades of years, is not on that account the leſs real.

" found

" found and perſevering reſearches. The philoſopher, animated " by the principle which is characteriſtic of human reaſon, and " which uniformly tends to refer all knowledge to one point, to " reduce it to ſyſtem, and to collect the whole as into a focus, " whence he may at one view ſurvey the vaſt field of natural " phenomena, perceives here a ſource of diſcoveries for perfect- " ing to a great degree all the branches of real knowledge, and " will endeavour to accompliſh his object, at whatever expence " of labour and time it may coſt him. But this intereſt will be- " come ſtronger, in proportion as he finds the relation which " theſe purſuits, of great importance in themſelves, all bear to a " queſtion, the ſolution of which is ſtill a ſecret; namely, the " queſtion that has been ſo much agitated, reſpecting the figure " of the earth. The navigator has every moment occaſion to " know what point he occupies on the ſurface of the globe. For " this purpoſe, having obſerved any one phenomenon in the hea- " vens, (we will ſuppoſe the diſtance of the moon's centre from " a particular ſtar) he ought to be able to determine by calcula- " tion, how this ſame phenomenon would appear to the eye of " an obſerver placed at the center of the earth. Conſequently " into this calculation, the equation of the earth's ſurface enters " as an element, which, not being known with ſufficient accu- " racy, might eaſily give occaſion to an error of ſome ſeconds; " and aſtronomers are not ignorant of what moment ſuch an " error might prove. It was with a view to diſembarraſs the me- " thod of finding the longitude at ſea from thoſe uncertainties,

" that the board of longitude in London propoſed a prize of five " thouſand pounds (or thirty-three thouſand three hundred and " thirty-three rix dollars, more or leſs) to whomſoever ſhould " conſtruct new tables of the moon, deduced from the principle " of univerſal gravitation; the errors of which ſhould be within " the limits of fifteen ſeconds, more or leſs. But the moſt ſcru- " pulous accuracy in the tables of the moon would completely " fail of its object, ſo long as the tables on the effects of the pa- " rallax are not proportionably exact. It was, among other mo- " tives, chiefly to remedy this defect, that the moſt celebrated " ſocieties all over Europe, and particularly the royal academy of " Paris, after the attention of the learned had been called to this " object by Huygens, conſidered it as one of the moſt ſacred du- " ties they could perform for the good of humanity, to clear up " this difficult point in mathematical coſmography. For this pur- " poſe meaſurements of degrees of the meridian have been planned " and executed at different times, and in different places; which " when properly examined, in fact give a concurrent teſtimony " that the earth is a ſpheroid, oblate, or flattened towards the " poles; but differ however in this, that when you compare them " two and two, and ſuppoſe that the earth is generated by the " revolution of an ellipſis round its ſhort axis, you conſtantly ob- " tain different values for the eccentricity of the generating " ellipſis. This is the true reaſon why philoſophers have ſuſpected " that this ſurface, 1ſt, is not a ſpheroid, or other ſurface of the " ſecond order; 2dly, that it is not a figure that is the reſult of " revolutions;

" revolutions; 3dly, that its two hemiſpheres on each ſide of the " equator are not alike. Aſtronomers, nevertheleſs, having ob- " ſerved in the orbits of the heavenly bodies a ſort of predilection " for lines of the ſecond order, and geometers having eſtabliſhed " on the moſt inconteſtible evidence, that any fluid body whoſe " ſurface is of the ſecond order, may remain in equilibrio, when " the particles of which it is compoſed attract in the reciprocal " ratio of the ſquare of the diſtances, the learned have thought " that they were not warranted by reaſons ſufficiently ſtrong to " abandon the ellipticity of the revolution; having due regard to " the ſmallneſs of the errors in the executed meaſurements which " might very well give occaſion to all the diverſity of the reſults. " But to be convinced how cautious we ought to be before we " decide in matters of this ſort, let us recollect the meaſurements " executed by Jean Dominique Caſſini over the ſurface of France, " which at firſt ſight ſeemed to prove that the earth, far from " being oblate towards the poles, was rather a little raiſed or " elevated. This reſult, ſo much the more ſtriking, that it by " no means agreed either with the theory of centrifugal force " advanced by Huygens, or with the principle of univerſal gravi- " tation eſtabliſhed by Newton, having undergone a more rigor- " ous inveſtigation by geometers, they ſoon perceived, that not " having perfectly ſeized the univerſality of the principle, they " had conſidered as contrary what was in fact one of its moſt " immediate conſequences: and thus what they ſuppoſed was to " overthrow the firſt foundation of the ſyſtem of attraction be-

" came its firmeſt ſupport; inaſmuch as the attraction of the " Pyrenees, which by their vicinity produced a deviation in the " plumb-line, was the cauſe of the error. But to place in a ſtill " ſtronger light the reaſons that militate in favour of ſurfaces of " the ſecond order, I imagined it would not be deemed foreign " to our object, if I ſubjoined here ſome general reflections con- " cerning the developement of any functions whatever in ſeries. " In this view, let u be any function of x, y, z, a, b, &c. the " queſtion is to develope in a given ſucceſſion in reference to the " powers of a, b, &c, and u be what we ſuppoſe u becomes when " it comprehends a, b, &c $= 0$.

$$\text{Farther, let } a = U \times a A_{1.0} \times a^2 A_{2.0} \times a^3 A_{3.0} \times \&c,$$
$$\times b A_{0.1} \times a A_{1.1} \times a^2 b A_{2.1} \times \&c,$$
$$\times b^2 A_{0.2} \times a b^2 A_{1.2} \times \&c,$$
$$\times b^3 A_{0.3} \times \&c,$$

" or the term whoſe co-efficient $a^m b^n$ is repreſented by $A_{m.n}$, we then " know that $A_{m.n} = \left(\frac{\frac{d^{m \times n} u}{da^m . db^n}}{1.2.3. .m.1.2.3...n}\right)$.

" Now, to ſhew the application of it to the preſent queſtion, " let us ſuppoſe that $u = 0$ is the equation which without any " approximation repreſents the ſurface of the earth; but ſince " we learn from all the known meaſurements of degrees of the " meridian, that whatever be the figure of the earth, it does not

" differ

" differ ſenſibly from that of a ſphere, the equation $u = 0$ will " neceſſarily contain one or more of thoſe ſmall quantities a, b, " &c ſo affected, that if we ſuppoſe them $= 0$, the remaining " equation $u = 0$ will be that of a ſphere, whoſe dimenſions are " equal to thoſe of the earth; whence it will follow that u will " be the firſt term of our developed ſeries, as we have juſt ſaid. " Beſides, if we except $aA_{1.0}$, and $bA0.1$, all the other terms " $a^m b^n A_{m.n}$ may be diſregarded on account of the ſmallneſs of " the quantities a, b, &c.; conſequently the ſurface of our globe " will be repreſented by the equation $U \times aA_{1.0} \times bA_{0.1} = 0$. " The whole then comes to this, to know what is the form of " the functions $A_{1.0}$ and $A_{0.1}$, which being ſuppoſed of the ſe- " cond order, the equation $u = 0$ will repreſent an ellipſoid, " whoſe eccentricities of the equator, and of the meridian which " paſſes through the great axis of the equator, will depend on the " quantities a, b, &c. In reſpect of the figure of revolution, it " is very clear that then the quantity a will be nearly equal to b, " or what is the ſame thing, if we make $a = b \underline{\times} b$, the quan- " tity u will be very ſmall; whence it follows that the equation " $u = 0$, may be repreſented by this $0 = U \times bA_{0.1}$. In ſhort, " there is no reaſon to fear that the diſregarded quantities ſhould " ever prove conſiderable enough to produce any error of conſe- " quence, as difficulties which in all probability we ſhall never be " able fully to ſurmount, will for ever prevent our preciſely know-

" ing.

" ing the value of the quantities *a*, *b*, &c., and there is conſe-
" quently in the uncertainty of the value of thoſe terms the germ
" of errors which would greatly exceed thoſe which might ariſe
" from the omiſſion of the other terms $a^m b^n A_{m.n}$. In all events,
" U being already known, $aA_{1.0}$ and $bA_{0.1}$ are quantities which
" ought to be firſt determined, whether it ſhould be afterwards
" judged neceſſary to carry the approximation farther or not.
" In one word, we ought, in all our calculations, which de-
" pend on the figure of the earth, to operate preciſely as in our
" calculations of the motion of the heavenly bodies, whoſe orbits
" we firſt ſuppoſe circular, then elliptical, and laſt of all we ap-
" ply to the former ſo corrected, the ſmall equations which con-
" tain the quantities in which the ellipſes themſelves are defi-
" cient. Such are the reaſons entertained by the aſtronomers of
" all Europe for unanimouſly inſiſting on the neceſſity of new
" meaſurements, executed with all poſſible care, with the aſſiſt-
" ance of the moſt perfect inſtruments, and according to the moſt
" approved methods of obſerving that the preſent age can ſup-
" ply. Now, the French aſtronomers have juſt finiſhed the con-
" ſtruction of a ſuite of triangles, which as they paſs through
" France extend from Dunkirk all the way to Barcelona, a ſpace
" which forms an arch of the meridian 9° 39″, or 10′.72, accord-
" ing to the decimal ſyſtem. Nothing therefore could be more in-
" tereſting to all ſuch as labour for the advancement of aſtronomy
" and geography, than to hear that a committee has been ap-

" pointed

" pointed by government to determine the length of an arch of " the meridian comprehended between the parallel of the North " Cape and that of Upſtad, or, at leaſt, to meaſure two or three " degrees taken in the vicinity of the polar circle. In the mean " time the academy of ſciences thought it might not be improper " to ſend ſome one of its members to Torneå, in order to inform " himſelf as to the local circumſtances of the grounds which, in " 1736, were choſen by the French mathematicians as fixed " points, and the execution of this plan was intruſted to me. I " am now to give an account of the remarks which I was en- " abled to make on the ſpot in regard to this ſubject.

" The country in the neighbourhood of Torneå is extremely " flat; towards the north, however, and in that quarter only, at " the diſtance of eight leagues, more or leſs, there commences a " chain of mountains which extends all the way to Kittiſvaza, " near the ſmall village of Pello, from whence it becomes again " flat to the diſtance of ſome leagues beyond Kengis, which is " twelve leagues north from Pello. In the whole of thoſe moun- " tains there is not one of any conſiderable magnitude: Avaſaxa, " which I conſider of a mean ſize, riſes only to the height of ſix " hundred and ſix feet above the level of the river. From this it " follows, that no one of thoſe mountains, conſidered by itſelf, " could produce a ſenſible deviation in the plumb-line, unleſs it " were very near one of the points where they determined the " amplitude of the arch of the meridian, a circumſtance which " has no place here. It remains then to know what might be the

" effect

" effect of their united attractions: but this even muſt have been " very inſenſible; ſince, according to the higheſt eſtimate admiſ- " ſible, the ſum of all the mountains from which any effect might " be ſuſpected, cannot be greater than a cubic league. Now this " maſs being ſuppoſed of a denſity double the mean denſity of the " earth, and its center of attraction at five leagues diſtance from " Kittiſvaza, and ten from Torneå, could not produce on the " plumb-line a greater deviation than 0″.3438 at Kittiſvaza, and " 0″.0369 at Torneå; whence it follows, that the total effect of " this alteration could have been only 0″.4298, and conſequently " the correction which ought to be made in the length of a de- " gree of the meridian, ſuch as has been meaſured by the French " academicians, would be only 6″.3575 to be added inſtead of a " hundred toiſes, which it has been ſuppoſed ought to be deducted. " I believe, then, I may affirm, that on my part there can be no " ſuſpicion of an error as to this ſubject, and that there is truly " ſome error in the meaſurement of 1736: the cauſe of this may " be fairly attributed to a defect in the ſextant or quadrant, or " perhaps, which is no leſs probable, to ſome uncertainty in the " baſe. Upon the whole, in order to ſettle all thoſe doubtful " circumſtances, it ſeems abſolutely neceſſary that this meaſure- " ment ſhould be wholly executed anew."

" To all this, give me leave to add one remark, which I had " occaſion to make at Torneå, and which, I imagine, well merits " the attention of the learned.

" We know that the French aſtronomers determined, at each " ſtation,

" ſtation, the elevation or depreſſion of the other ſignals in rela-
" tion to their horizon. I meaſured all thoſe angles, and what
" ſurpriſed me a good deal was, that I found them always a little
" larger than they have been determined in the figure of the earth.
" The inſtrument I employed in my operation was a whole circle
" of fourteen inches and two-thirds diameter, graduated at each
" minute: nevertheleſs, I believe, that by the help of an eſtimate,
" one may aſſure himſelf that he is not deceived by more than
" ten, or at moſt fifteen ſeconds. A complete deſcription of this
" inſtrument may be ſeen in the memoirs of the academy of
" ſciences, at Stockholm, for the year 1750, 26th and following
" pages. The firſt ſuſpicion that ſtruck my mind, upon obſerv-
" ing this difference, was, that it might ariſe from the point zero
" in that circle. This I examined on the ſpot, and found it wrong
" 1′ 30″. I continued the ſame examination for ſeveral ſucceſſive
" days after I got to Torneå; and taking the mean of my obſer-
" vations on terreſtrial objects, as well as meridian heights of the
" ſun, I obſerved that 1′ 24″ ought to be deducted from all the
" obſervations of heights, a circumſtance which at the ſame time
" proves that the inſtrument had ſuffered no injury in travelling.

" Individuals will make what remarks they pleaſe on my obſer-
" vations; I here ſubjoin them exactly as they were made.

Place of Obſervation.	Obſervations before Correction.	Obſervations corrected.	Obſervations of the French.	Difference.
Avasaxa.	P = + 8′ 35″	+ 7′ 11″	+ 4′ 50″	+ 2′ 21″
	C = — 11′ 0″	— 12′ 24″	= 14′ 15″	+ 1′ 5″
	h = — 16′ 50″	— 18′ 14″	— 20′ 20″	+ 2′ 6″
	H = — 3′ 45″	— 5′ 9″	— 8′ 0″	+ 2′ 5″
Huitaperi.	*n* = 15′ 30″	— 16′ 54″	— 19′ 0″	+ 2′ 6″
	A = + 0′ 15″	+ 6′ 51″	+ 5′ 0″	+ 1′ 51″
Horrisankero.	A = + 2′ 0″	+ 0′ 36″	+ 0′ 0″	+ 0′ 36″
	P = + 14′ 10″	+ 12′ 46″	+ 11′ 50″	+ 0′ 56″
Kakamavara.	*n* = — 18′ 47″	— 20′ 11″	— 22′ 50″	+ 2′ 39″
	C = — 2′ 50″	— 4′ 14″	— 4′ 45″	+ 0′ 31″
Stiemivara.	P = + 21′ 30″	+ 20′ 6″	+ 18′ 30″	+ 1′ 36″
Kittisvara.	P = + 26′ 0″	+ 24′ 36″	+ 22′ 30″	+ 2′ 6″

" What may be the cauſe of this difference I will not take it " upon me to ſay; I am inclined however to believe, that it has " its origin in the power, more or leſs conſiderable, which our " atmoſphere poſſeſſes of refracting the rays of light; at leaſt we " cannot attribute it entirely to an error of the inſtrument, ſince " an inequality of 2′ 5″ is altogether impoſſible in ſo ſmall an angle " as 5′ 9″ (See H at Avaſaxa), the more ſo that in the angle C " at Kakamavara, which is nearly of the ſame quantity, the dif- " ference is only 0′ 31″. On the contrary, it appears, from the " theory of refraction, that theſe angles ought not to appear the " ſame at different heights of the thermometer or barometer."

Such are Mr. Swamberg's remarks on that important ſubject, which I hope the reader will not blame me for inſerting in the courſe of theſe travels. I ſhall now proceed with the account of my journey.

From

From Pello to Kardis is eighteen Engliſh miles, a paſſage which was wholly performed againſt the current by the vigorous arms of our Finlandiſh Laplanders, who aſtoniſhed us by the addreſs as well as the ſtrength they diſplayed, in the progreſs of this moſt laborious navigation.

We obſerved all along the river a particular mode, quite new to me, of obtaining the eggs of an aquatic bird, which is named *mergus merganſor* by Linnæus. The natives are very fond of the eggs of this bird, which has very ſingular habits for one of this deſcription. Whether it is from a kind of indolence, or a deſire of concealing its eggs from birds of prey, it never builds a neſt. The neſt of aquatics in general, ſeems to be of no uſe but that of holding the eggs; for their young take to the water the moment they are out of the ſhell, and acquire their food in their own element. The mergus merganſor, inſtead of building a ſmall neſt like the ducks, on the banks, or among the reeds or buſhes, chuſes to lay her eggs in the trunk of an old tree, in which time, or the hand of man, has made ſuch an excavation, as ſhe can conveniently enter. The perſon that waylays the bird for her eggs, places againſt a fir or pine tree ſomewhere near the bank of the river, a decayed trunk, with a hole in its middle: the bird enters, and lays her eggs in it: preſently the peaſant comes, and takes away the eggs, leaving, however, one or two. The animal returns, and finding but a ſingle egg, lays two or three more, which the man purloins in the ſame manner: the bird ſtill returns, and, as if ſhe had forgot the eggs ſhe had laid, proceeds once more to complete

the number ſhe intended. She is defrauded of her eggs as before, and continues repeating the ſame proceſs four or five times, when the man, who has by this time gathered perhaps a ſcore of eggs from the ſame neſt, ſuffers her to lay the laſt for the increaſe of her family. As ſoon as the eggs are hatched, the mother takes the chicks gently in her bill, carries and lays them down at the foot of the tree, where ſhe teaches them the way to the river, in which they inſtantly ſwim with an aſtoniſhing facility.

From Kardis to Kengis is a diſtance of fifteen miles, which is accompliſhed with great fatigue, on account of continued cataracts and the violent current of the river. Beſides the danger of the water-falls, we were much moleſted by a ſpecies of gnat, a circumſtance which, in compariſon of what we were to experience afterwards, perhaps does not deſerve to be noticed in this place. Our ſervants began to murmur and complain of the exceſs of their hardſhips, of the extravagance of our travels: they thought it extremely fooliſh to ſuffer and hazard ſo much in a country where one does not meet with any of the enjoyments of life, not even with a bottle of wine, or ſo much as an alehouſe: in ſhort they made us underſtand that the country contained nothing in the ſmalleſt degree intereſting to them, and that their only wiſh was to return. We endeavoured to conduct ourſelves like good officers; but though we ſet them an example of perfect ſobriety, and ſhared with them the ſame bread and dried meat, as well as the ſame trouble and hardſhips, it was impoſſible to recal them to good humour; nor could they ever forget that they were ſtill about

about four hundred Engliſh miles from the laſt ſtage of our intended progreſs in the North.

Our arrival at Kengis, however, conciliated them a little. We met here an inſpector of the mines, who received us with much civility, and ſupplied us with a plentiful board and lodging. The object of this gentleman's reſidence in this country was to encourage and promote the erection of founderies, of which he had conceived the moſt ſanguine hopes, but which had been abandoned and reſumed at different times, according to the proſpects of the adventurers. He had invited ſettlers from the North, formed a ſpecies of colony, opened a new branch of traffic, and within theſe few years had benefited this part of Lapland by the produce of the mines. He lived here happily enough, having, at a conſiderable expence, been able to procure himſelf all the conveniencies of life. He had turned ſome land in the vicinity of his houſe into meadow ground, and planted an eminence hard by with Italian poplars, which ſeemed aſtoniſhed to find themſelves in thoſe hyperborean regions. When Maupertuis paſſed by Kengis on his way to the *heart of Lapland*, in order to viſit a ſtone with ſome perhaps accidental impreſſion upon it, which he chuſes to denominate the moſt ancient inſcription in the univerſe, there ſeems to have been no inſpector of founderies here, as he then lived at the houſe of a clergyman. He calls Kengis a miſerable place.* We were not tempted to viſit this monument; the people of the country ſeemed to have no tradition concerning it, nor did our curioſity lie greatly

* See Maupertuis's Travels, from page 179 to 209.

in

in this department: beſides, we were perſuaded that Maupertuis had, from a ſort of oſtentation, beſtowed an importance on an object which it was not worth the trouble of going to ſee. The Ruſſians had penetrated as far as Kengis.

In the courſe of this journey we collected the following plants in flower:

Cæraſtium viſcoſum	Pinguicula vulgaris
Cæraſtium alpinum	Myrica gale

Among the inſects were the following:

Corambyx mordax	Leptura interrogationis*
Corambyx inquiſitor	Cantharis pectinicornis
Chryſomela quadripunctata	Papilio antiopa
Chryſomela coccinea	Cicindela reparia
Chryſomela Lapponica	Silpha atrata
Chryſomela ænea	Tineæ variæ

* The leptura is very common in this country, and generally lies concealed in the corol of the *Trollius Europæus*, Linn. Almoſt each flower had a leptura, and often two, in the attitude of generation.

CHAPTER

CHAPTER XXX.

Stay at Kengis—Entertainment given by the Inſpector—The Bear-Dance a very fatiguing ſort of Amuſement—Viſit from ſome young Women of the Neighbourhood; among them one, a Native of Kollare, of a ſurpriſing Degree of bodily Strength—Separation of the Travellers—The Author and another Gentleman alone proceed Northward—Geographical Notice on the River Torneå.

THE inſpector of the founderies at Kengis ſpared no expence that could contribute to render our ſtay at this place agreeable to us. He thought nothing in his houſe too coſtly for our entertainment: he aſſembled the peaſants to ſhew us their dancing and the genius of their muſic; and on Sunday he treated our party with punch and liqueurs in a handſome little tent, which he had erected on a ſmall eminence under his Italian poplars.

Among the different dances exhibited by the peaſants on this occaſion, there was one which ſeemed particularly curious; it is called, in the language of the country, *the bear's-dance.* A peaſant reſts his hands upon the ground, and at the ſame time ſupports himſelf on his legs, ſo as to keep his body in a horizontal poſition, like the bear, or any other animal, when it walks on all fours.

fours. Remaining conſtantly in the ſame attitude, he begins to dance, and by his leaps and jumps, ſtudies to keep time with the muſic, which is extremely gothic, and which the reader will find inſerted in the Appendix. The execution of this dance is attended with great labour and fatigue, inſomuch that it is very difficult for the peaſant to go on with it above three or four minutes, without falling into the moſt violent perſpiration. It is however a ſort of exerciſe which is good for ſtrengthening the muſcles of the arms, and therefore highly uſeful to the natives of this country, whoſe laborious exertions in aſcending the cataracts in ſummer require very great vigour and muſcular power. Addreſs and bodily ſtrength are the qualities in the higheſt repute among the peaſantry in this part of Weſtrobothnia; and beſides this dance, they have other exerciſes which demand a ſurpriſing degree of activity and firmneſs in their limbs.

While we ſat in our tent on the ſummit of the hill, a number of Finlandiſh girls, induced by curioſity to ſee us, ſurrounded the tent. We ſoon recommended ourſelves to their acquaintance, and invited the handſomeſt of them to enter the tent; an invitation which they were not ſhy of accepting. We offered them wine, but they diſliked it; punch, but they had no greater reliſh for it: we ordered them beer, but they could as little drink this. At length we found out that thoſe girls were accuſtomed to no other beverage than milk and water. There was among them a native of Kollare, who merited a more than ordinary ſhare of our attention, and who immediately attracted our notice by her ſtature,

ture, her gaiety, and by a ſharp and decided manner in her deportment. She had ſuch ſtrength of arms, that when we were diſpoſed to toy with her, and ſeek perhaps to be a little too familiar, ſhe would repulſe us with a blow that forced us back four or five paces. Her limbs were active and agile, ſhe was remarkably tall, and in ſhort would have been a very fine woman, had not a long waiſt with very ſhort petticoats, disfigured her perſon. Her face was not extremely delicate, but her features were well formed; her hair cheſnut, her eyes lively, and her complexion full of health and vigour. She was dreſſed entirely in white of rather a fine linen cloth, which ſhe had probably bought at Torneå of ſome travelling merchant: all her companions were perfectly clean, and every thing upon them was either new or recently waſhed.

We ſpent about an hour in the company of theſe girls, all which time we kept conſtantly talking without underſtanding each other: we exchanged many heavy blows, enough to make one half ſerious; but this is a kind of affectionate careſs among peaſants in all parts of the world. The girl of Kollare was ſo ſtrong, and made ſuch impreſſion with her Herculean arm, that ſhe had driven us to a man almoſt off the field. Our interpreter hinted to us that we muſt take care how we offended this young woman, as ſhe was to give us lodging at Kollare, a place we muſt paſs on our route. She ſeemed pleaſed when ſhe learned that we ſhould be at her houſe next day, and promiſed that ſhe would do every thing in her power to have her dwelling comfortable for us at our arrival.

This day, which was Sunday, paſſed in mirth and feſtivity. The inſpector, to ſhew the great amiability of his character, gave us a Swediſh ſong and a toaſt to each glaſs of punch, and it was in vain to decline filling a bumper. At midnight we quitted this tent to obſerve, on a more elevated ground, the height of the ſun as uſual; but on this occaſion the company was by no means unanimous; not as to the ſun's elevation alone, one perſon maintaining he ſaw two, and others, equally confident and inebriated, that they ſaw no fewer than four. Inſtead, however, of diſcuſſing the merits of the queſtion with intemperate warmth, though held to be a matter of ſerious importance, we conducted ourſelves with more prudence than the learned perhaps might have done on a ſubject of leſs magnitude; for we reſolved to go to ſleep, and adjourn the *ſubverſion* of the planetary ſyſtem till the next morning. In ſhort, on the night following, at the ſame hour, we were perfectly agreed both as to the *height and number of ſuns*.

If Sunday had paſſed in all the pleaſures of convivial enjoyment, Monday, the period fixed for our departure, was ſo much the more ſad and melancholy. Three of our friends took leave of us: Mr. Bellotti, Mr. Julin, and Dr. Deutſch would not, and indeed, for particular reaſons, could not, expoſe themſelves to the dangers of our expedition, and choſe to return to Torneå and Uleåborg. Our plan of travels received ſuch a ſevere ſhock by their departure, as nothing but the moſt determined reſolution could reſiſt. Friendſhip and the infection of example made us heſitate for ſome time as to the propriety of perſiſting in our enterpriſe;

terpriſe; but our pride could not digeſt the humiliating idea of returning to Uleåborg, to the great diverſion of our friends, who would never have done rallying us on the ſubject, or of boaſting of their ſage counſels, and the truth of their predictions. Colonel Skiöldebrand, with his ſervant, remained alone with me: his purpoſe continued unſhaken, for his ardour was not inferior to my own. He would not be diſcouraged by any difficulties in purſuing the object he had propoſed to himſelf; and I was no leſs decided as to the execution of my project. I muſt confeſs that the idea of being the firſt Italian that had ever reached the moſt northern point of Europe, was a very powerful incentive to my exertions.

Before quitting Kengis, I ſhall make a few geographical remarks on the river Torneå, and endeavour to give, in ſome degree, a clear idea of the nature and courſe of that river, concerning which there is much confuſion and error in all the maps, and even in the Swediſh accounts themſelves.

The river Tornea proceeds from a lake called Torneå Träſk, as its ſource. This lake is ſituated among the mountains which ſeparate Norwegian from Swediſh Lapland. From that lake the river alſo takes its name. It paſſes, in its courſe near Kengis, where it forms two cataracts, nearly forty feet high. It then approaches the town of Upper Torneå, twiſts round the little iſland of Swenſar, on which the town of Torneå is ſituated, and laſt of all it makes the iſland of Björkön, on which ſtands the church of Lower Torneå. About a mile below Kengis, the waters of the river

river receive a conſiderable augmentation by their junction with another river, which has its ſource among a number of lakes and marſhes higher up than Enontekis, and bears the name of Muonio, till it loſes itſelf in its union with the Torneå. The latter, enriched by the Muonio, becomes of a very conſiderable ſize on its way to the ſea, as it is ſtill farther increaſed by the tributary ſtreams of ſome rivulets which iſſue from the lakes and marſhes in its vicinity, and at laſt it empties itſelf into the gulf of Bothnia.

Near Kengis the banks of this river are conſiderably ſteeper than about Upper Torneå, and conſiſt partly of a reddiſh *feltſpar* and partly of ſlates of a blackiſh colour, whoſe angles ſtand edgeways, with an inclination to the ſouth.

The river Torneå is in general ſubject to three inundations; namely, one in ſpring, cauſed by the diſſolution of the ice and ſnow on the montains; the ſecond in ſummer, owing to ſudden and violent falls of rain; and the third in autumn, before the ſetting in of the froſt. The greateſt breadth of this river, when its waters are of a mean height, is nine hundred, and its common breadth five hundred yards: its greateſt depth is ten yards, and its loweſt ſhoal from two to five feet. In winter it is frozen in its whole extent, and the thickneſs of the ice is from five to ſometimes eight feet.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

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